

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

TELEPHONE (860) 424-5053

TDD/TTY 1-800-842-4524

(860) 424-5057

EMAIL

commis.dss@ct.gov

TO:

Commissioner

The Honorable Toni N. Harp, Senate Chair, Appropriations Committee The Honorable Toni E. Walker, House Chair, Appropriations Committee The Honorable Robert J. Kane, Ranking Member, Appropriations Committee The Honorable Craig A. Miner, Ranking Member, Appropriations Committee Members of the Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Anthony J. Musto, Senate Chair, Human Services Committee The Honorable Peter A. Tercyak, House Chair, Human Services Committee The Honorable Joe Markley, Ranking Member, Human Services Committee The Honorable Lile R. Gibbons, Ranking Member, Human Services Committee Members of the Human Services Committee

FROM:

Roderick Bremby, Commissioner

RE:

CONNECTICUT MEDICAID FOR LOW-INCOME ADULTS 1115 WAIVER

DATE:

July 19, 2012

In accordance with the provisions of Section 17b-8 of the Connecticut General Statues, I hereby submit to the Human Services and Appropriations Committees of the Connecticut General Assembly the Department of Social Services' proposed "Section 1115 Demonstration Authority Request for Medicaid Low-Income Adult Coverage Demonstration." This proposal represents a sustainable approach to providing Medicaid Coverage to Low-Income Adults in Connecticut under the waiver authority of Section 1115 of the Social Security Act. This proposal is faithfully submitted in accordance with the provisions of Public Act 12-104 and Public Act 12-01 of the June Special Session.

In 2010 Connecticut became the first state to extend Medicaid benefits to low-income adults when this opportunity arose as a result of the Affordable Care Act. This transformation of the state-funded State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) program into a new Medicaid coverage group allowed for a richer benefit package for this group of very low-income individuals and provided federal matching funds to the state.

In the years since implementation, the LIA program has seen dramatic and unanticipated growth both in numbers of clients and LIA program expenditures. In recognition of this reality, the Department was directed by Public Act 12-001 to take the following measures:

Apply for a Medicaid waiver, pursuant to Section 1115 of the Social Security Act, to modify eligibility and coverage for such low-income adults by establishing that (1) an asset limit of \$10,000 (under the Department's proposal, home property and one car will be excluded); (2) the income and assets of the parents of an individual who is under twenty-six years of age will be counted when determining the individual's eligibility for the program, provided the individual lives with a parent or is declared as a dependent by a parent for income tax purposes; and (3) nursing facility care each eligible individual shall be limited to 90 days of nursing facility care.

As an 1115 Demonstration Waiver Application, the intent of this proposal also will be to inform the state's knowledge concerning early expansion populations. Furthermore, the Department intends to use the demonstration experience to identify trends in beneficiary needs for Medicaid LIA enrollees under the Demonstration to aid in preparation for the "newly eligible" coverage expansion in 2014 under the ACA.

We believe that all of these changes may be implemented in a way that preserves Connecticut's commitment to offering health care coverage to those most in need while maintaining manageable program growth and expenses.

The Department has successfully fulfilled the rigorous public notice processes required by recently promulgated federal regulations. In addition to the hearing that will be convened by your Committees on July 24, 2012, the Department presented the waiver at a special meeting of the Council on Medical Assistance Programs Oversight on June 26, 2012 and convened a hearing in New Haven on June 28, 2012. In addition, notices appeared in major Connecticut newspapers and the Connecticut Law Journal and information on the waiver is available on the Department's website. We have received a large volume of comments on the waiver to which we respond in the draft waiver application.

We look forward to discussing the provisions of this waiver at the Committee hearing. Thank you.

cc: Benjamin Barnes, Secretary OPM
Anne Foley, Under Secretary OPM
Kathleen Brennan, Deputy Commissioner DSS
Mark Schaefer, Director, DSS

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

SECTION 1115 DEMONSTRATION DRAFT WAIVER APPLICATION TO THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

MEDICAID LOW-INCOME ADULT COVERAGE DEMONSTRATION (Date to be inserted)

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Connecticut Department of Social Services Section 1115 Demonstration Authority Request for Medicaid Low-Income Adult Coverage Demonstration

A Sustainable Approach to Providing Medicaid Coverage to Low-Income Adults in the State of Connecticut

I. INTRODUCTION

The State of Connecticut (Connecticut/State) has led the nation in providing coverage to the uninsured. The effort undertaken to serve individuals through the Medicaid for Low-Income Adults (LIA) program effective April 1, 2010 reflects our long commitment to ensuring that our citizens have access to quality health care. While the program has been exceptionally successful in providing coverage, its growth has spurred the need to seek a more targeted program, sustaining services for those with the most significant need and few alternatives for coverage. Connecticut seeks a new 1115 Demonstration Waiver to preserve the State's commitment to sustainable coverage for the low income, adult residents most in need of health care services in preparation for the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2014. Through this Demonstration, Connecticut expects to provide valuable insight to inform the national dialogue around the Medicaid "newly eligible" population, including the income and assets that may be available to individuals, their use of nursing facility benefits and the extent to which individuals who have the means to obtain private coverage may choose Medicaid coverage instead.

II. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

Connecticut has long demonstrated its commitment to health care coverage for its most vulnerable citizens. For several decades, the State and its municipalities administered a general assistance program to provide medical assistance to low-income uninsured adults. In 1998, the legislature established the State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) program, which transferred all administrative and financial responsibility for the general assistance program to the State. On June 21, 2010 Connecticut became the first State in the nation to gain approval from the federal government to expand Medicaid coverage to an estimated 45,000 individuals under Section 2001 of the ACA. This new Medicaid LIA program included individuals who were previously enrolled in a more limited benefit package under SAGA. The conversion provided long-term care/skilled

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nursing facility services and home health care benefits to this population, provided greater access to non-emergency medical transportation and expanded the provider network available to participants. Although income eligibility remained unchanged at 56% of the federal poverty level (FPL) (with an additional 12% income disregard for shelter costs in Region A/Fairfield County), the SAGA asset limit of \$1,000 was eliminated to comply with federal requirements. (Note: The FPL limit was updated in 2012 to 55% of the FPL.)

The Medicaid expansion for LIAs has resulted in significant unbudgeted costs and unanticipated enrollment growth. Since the program's expansion, the State has been grappling with the unanticipated consequences of escalating caseloads and the resultant costs. Elimination of the asset test, poor economic conditions, as well as inclusion of populations who did not formerly qualify for SAGA, created an unanticipated level of caseload growth, increasing by 72% from 46,156 clients in June 2010 to 79,295 in June 2012. In State fiscal year (FY) 2011, Connecticut spent \$575.6 million; in FY 2009, the year prior to the expansion, expenditures were \$265.6 million. This increased caseload created significant State FY 2011 shortfalls in the funding that supports Medicaid LIA services, with shortfalls totaling \$160 million. Last year when the FY 2012 and FY 2013 biennial budget was being developed, the projected FY 2011 shortfall (at that time, projected at \$139 million), was trended forward into the estimates for FY 2012 and FY 2013. Yet, despite this, the current caseload level of more than 79,000 was not projected to be reached until May 2014. Even with the annualization of prior year shortfalls, the higher caseloads resulted in a shortfall in FY 2012 of over \$37 million for the Medicaid LIA program (FY 2012 expenditures totaled \$622.3 million). In the last six months, caseload has increased 7% and it is expected to continue to grow in the foreseeable future.

The Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) has undertaken major investments in resources to support improvements in care and service delivery for Medicaid populations, including the LIA population. These initiatives are intended to support the transformation of the service delivery system and the data available to participants in that system to continuously drive better performance. At the same time, DSS is pursuing a number of access, quality and cost-containment efforts that are intended to reduce the rate of program growth. Examples of these initiatives include:

 The establishment of a single statewide medical administrative services organization (ASO) to undertake customer service, utilization management, intensive care management and quality management for LIA and other medical assistance populations. There will be a special focus on health-risk stratification and health data analytics to improve population health management and

- support targeted intensive care management. Other data analytics will support provider profiling and pay for performance initiatives;
- The Connecticut Person-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) initiative supported by the contracted medical ASO with performance measures and incentives; and
- The Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (BHP), a joint initiative with the Departments of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Children and Families to establish an integrated system for the management of behavioral health services for Medicaid, including Medicaid LIA, members.

Despite these efforts, given current budgetary conditions, Connecticut estimates that caseload growth in the Medicaid LIA program has created an expansion program that has become financially unsustainable through the end of 2013 when 100% federal funding is expected to be available to cover the costs of these individuals in 2014.

III. DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL: DESCRIPTION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

With nearly 80,000 Connecticut residents receiving medical assistance under Medicaid LIA, the State cannot keep up with the expenditure demands of such program growth and still preserve coverage for those most in need. To date, such program growth is well beyond the level that had been budgeted and, in the absence of such changes, will jeopardize the State's ability to provide coverage to its most needy citizens. Effective October 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013, or whenever coverage becomes available to Demonstration participants as "newly eligibles" under ACA, Connecticut proposes to implement a new coverage group under Section 1115 Demonstration Authority that will replace the current State plan Medicaid LIA coverage group authorized under Section 1902(k)(2) of the Social Security Act and provide coverage to a more targeted population.

As part of the Governor's and Legislature's commitment to serving the State's citizens, good public policy requires that they encourage those who have access and can afford private coverage to utilize that coverage and preserve scarce State financial resources for individuals who could not otherwise pay for their coverage. Connecticut is concerned that, as individuals and families have become more aware of LIA coverage and eligibility rules, individuals who may have the financial means to purchase private coverage or coverage through the Charter Oak Health Plan, are enrolling in no-cost LIA coverage. This is of particular concern with respect to young adult enrollment in LIA. As of December 2011, LIA expenditures for those under the age of 21 have grown to 4.3% of total expenditures with expenditures in the first six months of FY 2012 totaling \$12.5 million. (These are new expenditures under LIA as individuals were only eligible for the SAGA program if they were 21 years of age or older.) The caseload for this age group has

increased from 0.1% in June 2010 to 8.2% of the total caseload (or 6,114 cases) in December 2011 and is expected to continue to climb as more parents with college-age children become aware of the availability of LIA coverage.

This Demonstration proposal seeks to test whether the elimination of the Medicaid asset test for the "early expansion" and, in 2014, the "newly eligible" population has created an unintended incentive for individuals and for families with dependents under age 26 to forgo private coverage and seek coverage under Medicaid as an alternative to private insurance options, including parental coverage available to dependents under age 26 under ACA. This Demonstration proposal reflects the State's position that limited financial resources should be preserved for the State's most needy citizens. Families who can cover dependent children, including young adult children, on their private insurance should do so. Individuals and households, with financial resources that allow them to reasonably purchase private insurance should not be receiving publicly subsidized medical assistance. Furthermore, Connecticut has the opportunity through this Demonstration to gain a richer understanding of the specific cost, benefit design and access barriers that are present in private coverage which may have encouraged families to forgo such private coverage and seek out Medicaid LIA coverage. This will allow the State to make informed policy decisions as it approaches Medicaid and private insurance reforms as part of the ACA. Finally, Connecticut intends to use the Demonstration experience to explore the characteristics of the LIA population in nursing facilities in comparison to individuals receiving coverage through the Medicaid program for aged, blind and disabled (ABD). The Demonstration will allow Connecticut to explore whether the lack of an asset test for LIA may allow assets to be "out of reach" from Medicaid ABD policies and reduce efforts to pursue disability determinations as a pathway for Medicaid LTC coverage

To this end, under the Demonstration, Connecticut is proposing to:

- Institute an asset (resource) test on all participants. The DSS will implement a \$10,000 asset test (excluding home property and one motor vehicle) on current LIA participants, as well as all new applicants;
- Count parental income and assets for individuals under age 26 who either live with a parent or are claimed as a dependent on a parent's income tax return; and
- Limit the nursing facility benefit to 90 days per admission subject to additional evaluation of this benefit change by DSS. (Depending on the outcome of that evaluation, LIA clients that meet the eligibility requirements for regular ABD Medicaid would be transitioned to the ABD program and subject to the Medicaid asset/resource rules under that program.)

The goals of this Demonstration are:

- Preservation of Connecticut's commitment to coverage for the most needy low income, adult residents in need of health care services in preparation for the expansion of Medicaid under ACA in 2014;
- Continued reliable access to affordable, quality health care services for Connecticut's most needy citizens;
- Coordination of health care services for Demonstration participants through the implementation of PCMH;
- Gaining depth and breadth in understanding as to what barriers exist today for families who have private coverage available;
- Providing early learning about Medicaid "newly eligibles" who may utilize nursing facility services and the implications for disability determinations and Medicaid ABD policies; and
- Manageable program growth and expenses through 2013.

These components are all linked in mission – to preserve Connecticut's commitment to providing quality health care coverage to the State's most vulnerable LIAs in a manner that is financially sustainable.

IV. <u>DEMONSTRATION ELIGIBILITY</u>

Under the Demonstration, an individual will be eligible for coverage if he or she meets the following eligibility requirements currently in place under the approved Medicaid State plan coverage group for LIA:

- Individuals ages 19 through 64;
- Not pregnant;
- Ineligible for coverage under Medicare or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP);
- Residents of Connecticut;
- US citizens or eligible non-citizens; and
- Not described in 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I) through 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VII) of the Social Security Act.

Under the Demonstration, Connecticut intends to institute an asset test. While there has been no asset test for LIA clients since the State converted its SAGA program to the Medicaid State plan coverage group for LIA in April 2010, the proposed asset limit of \$10,000 (excluding home property and one motor vehicle) will be higher than the

\$1,000 asset limit previously in place under SAGA. Targeting resources towards the State's needlest populations and encouraging private coverage or Charter Oak coverage for those with greater financial means will contribute toward the financial sustainability of the program between the time when the Demonstration is approved and 2014 when LIA participants are expected to be covered under the Medicaid expansion authorized under ACA.

Connecticut also intends to count parental income for those individuals ages 19 through 25 who are living with a parent or are claimed as a dependent on a parent's tax return. Although ACA provided parents the opportunity to cover children under their health insurance up to age 26, due to the difficult economy, Connecticut is concerned that more families are shifting coverage for their children to LIA because family income and assets are not counted.

Connecticut does not intend to implement additional changes to eligibility criteria for LIA clients under the Demonstration. Income eligibility under the Demonstration will continue to be set at or below 55% of the FPL and, except as noted above, the methodology for determining this income will continue as is currently established for LIA in the Medicaid State plan and described in Attachment A. Except as noted below with respect to self-attestations and verifications at redeterminations for the current LIA participants transitioning to eligibility under the Demonstration, individuals will apply for eligibility under LIA much as they do today under the existing Medicaid program. New applicants must, however, apply for Medicaid LIA directly with DSS using the application forms used for the ABD Medicaid populations and will no longer be able to apply with the DSS enrollment broker using the HUSKY/Charter Oak application form.

Transition from Medicaid LIA to the Demonstration

All Demonstration participants will be reviewed under the new Demonstration eligibility criteria. For the purpose of this section, October 1, 2012 is assumed to be the Demonstration approval date. If approval of the Demonstration occurs at a later date, the dates below will be adjusted accordingly. Connecticut intends to implement this transition as follows:

New Applicants

Beginning October 1, 2012 (or immediately upon approval of the Demonstration, if later) all new applications will be reviewed under the Demonstration eligibility criteria. Once the Demonstration is approved, DSS will notify the public about the changes to the LIA program and request information on applicants' assets and parental income/assets (if applicable). New applicants must provide income and asset information, including

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parental income and asset information (if applicable), in order to be determined eligible for the Demonstration.

LIA Applications in Process

LIA applicants who have pending applications as of October 1, 2012, will be asked to provide verification of their assets and parental income and assets (if applicable). DSS will notify applicants of the changes to Medicaid LIA under the Demonstration and request that individuals submit this information to DSS in order to finalize the application. DSS will also assist in finding alternatives for insurance coverage so as to ensure as little client disruption as possible.

Current Medicaid LIA Participants

DSS will not apply the changes sought through the Demonstration to current LIA participants until the Demonstration is approved. Upon approval of the Demonstration, current participants will be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate continued eligibility under the Demonstration based on self-declaration of income and assets or verification of income and assets if DSS is conducting a redetermination of eligibility.

The following describes the steps and timeline for DSS to transition current Medicaid LIA participants to the Demonstration, if eligible. As noted earlier, the timeline is predicated upon federal approval of the Demonstration by October 1, 2012. If approval is delayed past this date, the dates will be adjusted accordingly:

- Beginning in October 2012, LIA participants who are currently undergoing a
 redetermination of eligibility, as well as participants who are due to be
 redetermined before January 2013, will be asked to provide verification of their
 assets and parental income and assets (if applicable). Additionally in October,
 current LIA participants who are not due for a redetermination before
 January 2013 will be mailed information outlining the proposed eligibility and
 benefit changes and a self-attestation form.
- The deadline for completion and return of the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications to the State's contractor will be October 31, 2012. The contractor will track the clients who were mailed the information, those who returned the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications and those who did not return the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications. During November, the contractor will attempt to contact LIA participants who did not return the self-attestation or redetermination verifications, urge them to do so or apply for the Charter Oak Health Plan if ineligible.

- The contractor will refer all self-attestation forms or redetermination verifications to DSS. If DSS determines a client to be ineligible based on the income and asset information provided by the client, DSS will provide notice to the client. The contractor will notify ineligible clients of the availability of coverage through the State's Charter Oak Health Plan.
- Clients who meet the new program requirements based on self-attestation or redetermination verifications will remain eligible for coverage under the Medicaid LIA program. Clients who remain eligible based on their self-attestation will, however, be required to verify that they meet the new eligibility requirements at the time of their next scheduled redetermination.
- As noted above, for Medicaid LIA recipients that do not return the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications by October 31, 2012, a second attempt will be made by the contractor to contact these clients by mail and/or phone. Upon contact, the changes to the Medicaid LIA program and the need to provide the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications will be reiterated to the clients. It will also be explained that failure to return the form will result in loss of benefits. Clients will be given until November 15, 2012 to return the form to the contractor.
- The contractor will provide DSS with a list of clients who have not responded by November 15, 2012. DSS will discontinue Medicaid LIA assistance for these clients effective December 31, 2012 (assuming October 1, 2012 federal approval). These clients will be able to request hearings to contest the termination of benefits. For those clients who file a timely hearing request, DSS will maintain medical benefits pending the outcome of the hearing.

Again, DSS will not take any action on applications or redeterminations unless and until the Demonstration application receives approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS).

V. **DEMONSTRATION BENEFITS**

Connecticut currently provides the approved Medicaid State plan benefit package to the LIA population. Under the Demonstration, Connecticut will continue to provide the State plan benefit package to the LIA population, but the State is proposing to further evaluate the feasibility and cost effectiveness of limiting the nursing facility benefit to 90 days per admission.

This benefit limit is being considered to introduce a level of parity between regular Medicaid and LIA. Under the current State plan benefit package for LIA participants,

individuals have access to long term nursing facility benefits without having to spend-down assets to levels necessary for eligibility for Medicaid ABD. During the public comment period, DSS received several valuable comments on this proposal, including operational and policy challenges. DSS recognizes the need for further evaluation of this proposal before a final determination is made to modify the Demonstration benefit package.

Enrollment in the Demonstration benefit package will be mandatory for all Demonstration participants.

Cost-sharing

There will not be cost-sharing requirement under the Demonstration for LIA participants.

VI. <u>DEMONSTRATION DELIVERY SYSTEM</u>

Medicaid LIA Demonstration participants will receive services through the existing Medicaid delivery system and provider network at the Medicaid State plan reimbursement rates, as they do today under the State plan coverage group. There will be no difference in the delivery system. Demonstration participants will be included in the new initiatives that are being introduced in Connecticut's Medicaid program, including the new PCMH initiative, the Connecticut BHP and the medical ASO initiative to manage medical benefits. These initiatives do not require additional federal authorities or waivers for Medicaid State plan populations, therefore Connecticut does not anticipate the need for additional authority under this Demonstration for those initiatives.

VII. ESTIMATED IMPACT ON EXPENDITURES AND ENROLLMENT

DSS estimates that 13,381 members will lose eligibility over the proposed Demonstration period through December 31, 2013 as a result of the newly proposed eligibility criteria. In addition, the prospective LIA enrollment growth is expected to slow, as compared to the historical enrollment growth, once the Demonstration eligibility criteria go into effect for new applicants. The estimated medical expenditure savings attributable to the newly proposed eligibility criteria is \$48.1 million through June 30, 2013, and \$100.3 million for the entire proposed 15-month period ending December 31, 2013.

The estimated impact on expenditures and enrollment are developed specifically for the purposes of this Waiver application and should not be utilized for any other purpose. These estimates are highly dependent upon assumptions utilized in the analysis

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including the assumed approval and effective implementation dates, medical trend estimates, and eligibility assumptions.

VIII. DEMONSTRATION HYPOTHESIS AND EVALUATION PARAMETERS

DSS proposes to use the Demonstration experience to research and evaluate the following:

(1) Has the removal of the asset test for the "early expansion" and, in 2014, the "newly eligible" populations created an unintended incentive for individuals and for families with dependents under age 26 to forgo private coverage or other types of coverage such as Charter Oak, and seek coverage under Medicaid as an alternative to continued parental coverage available under ACA or other private insurance options?

As noted earlier, Connecticut believes that individuals and families with college-age children are shifting coverage from private coverage to Medicaid LIA because there is no asset test and family income and assets are not counted under current rules. Qualitative and quantitative data revealed from this Demonstration will be critical for the State as it continues to implement ACA reforms for Medicaid, the Exchange and the private insurance market as a whole.

Hypothesis: Individuals and families with dependents under age 26 are forgoing private or Charter Oak coverage for no-cost Medicaid LIA coverage, in part, due to the lack of asset or parental income/asset test in LIA.

- a. DSS will monitor and report on the enrollment trend rate of Demonstration enrollees under age 26 and under age 21 as compared to the same rate experienced in the State plan Medicaid LIA population.
 - Data Source: Medicaid LIA enrollment data pre-and post-Demonstration approval.
- b. DSS will review and report on the level of reported individual assets and parental income and assets of Medicaid LIA enrollees who apply and are redetermined eligible under the Demonstration eligibility criteria, as well as those individuals who choose not to apply or have their eligibility redetermined.
 - Data Source: Self-reported income and assets and family income/assets from individuals upon approval of the Demonstration and upon eligibility redetermination; Survey of State plan Medicaid LIA enrollees who do not apply under the Demonstration or do not have their eligibility redetermined.

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- c. DSS will evaluate the level of individual or family/dependent access to private or Charter Oak coverage reported by Medicaid LIA applicants and enrollees and any barriers to accessing such coverage.
 - Data Source: DSS survey of current and former Medicaid LIA enrollees, including individuals who fail to reapply or qualify under the new Demonstration criteria.
- (2) Does the availability of Medicaid coverage for the "newly eligible" population that includes a nursing facility benefit but requires no asset test, reduce the number of people who would otherwise come in to Medicaid as a result of a disability determination and put "out of reach" potentially higher assets? To what extent do LIA participants residing in nursing facilities resemble a Medicaid ABD enrollee except for their level of assets?

Hypothesis: The lack of a Medicaid asset test for the LIA population is allowing individuals with higher assets to receive long-term care in nursing facilities without going through a disability determination and permitting assets to remain "out of reach" to Medicaid.

- a. DSS will collect and report asset information on LIA enrollees receiving nursing facility services.
 - Data source: Asset information reported during the LIA eligibility determinations and redeterminations.
- b. DSS will interview a sample of the LIA Demonstration participants in LTC to determine whether or not these individuals would likely qualify under Medicaid ABD rules.
 - Data source: Interview questionnaire (to be developed)

DSS also proposes to use the Demonstration experience to identify trends in beneficiary needs for Medicaid LIA enrollees under the Demonstration to aid in preparation for coverage expansions pursuant to the "newly eligible" coverage expansion in 2014 under the ACA. DSS will develop measures and reports to be generated by the ASO specific to the LIA population that may also be used to compare other Medicaid populations. Examples include: mental health utilization, readmission rates/reasons, access to preventative care/services, and ED visits. DSS will evaluate the Demonstration cost and utilization experience in order to better understand the cost and utilization patterns of the Medicaid expansion population in 2014 as compared to those of current Medicaid

State plan populations.

IX. PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Connecticut has conducted an open and transparent public input process on the proposed changes to the LIA program that began back in 2011 when the State began to realize the unsustainable fiscal growth of the LIA population and released a Concept Paper on the Demonstration proposal. The following summarizes the formal process for State public input that Connecticut has conducted in preparation for submission of this application to CMS and in compliance with the State public notice requirements for Section 1115 Demonstration Waivers at 42 CFR 431.408. Written documentation of the State's compliance with these requirements can be found in Attachment B of this application.

- DSS notified the State's two Tribal leaders of the proposed Demonstration (June 12, 2012);
- DSS issued a public notice of the State's intent to apply for the Section 1115
 Demonstration application in five newspapers, including the two major newspapers with the widest circulation (June 13, 2012);
- DSS posted a link to the draft application on the main page of the DSS website for the public's review and comment and established a dedicated email address for comments to be submitted (June 12, 2012);
- DSS notified major stakeholder groups in Connecticut through an electronic mailing list (June 15 and 18, 2012);
- DSS held two public hearings in geographically distinct areas of the State: Hartford (June 26, 2012) and New Haven (June 28, 2012). Members of the public attended and provided comments on the application;
- DSS posted public notice of the proposed Demonstration in the Connecticut Law Journal (July 3, 2012); and
- The draft application was reviewed before the legislative Committees of Cognizance as required by State law (July 24, 2012).

Not unexpectedly, public comment on the proposed application has largely focused on the concern around the loss of existing or potential coverage under LIA. However, in these times of very limited State financial resources, DSS must prioritize coverage of its needlest citizens in order to maintain a sustainable program and encourage the use of private or other coverage such as Charter Oak for those who are more likely to be able to afford it.

DSS appreciates the interest of individuals and organizations from across the State on the proposed Demonstration. DSS values this public input and has developed responses

to each of these general areas. DSS will post these responses on the DSS website as part of the State's goal of transparency for this Waiver submission.

The following represents a summary of the public comments submitted through public testimony. The submitted comments generally fell into one of the following areas and we describe below how DSS considered these comments in this Demonstration application to CMS:

1. Impact of the Demonstration eligibility criteria on the current LIA population and other low-income populations.

Many commenters expressed concern that the proposed changes to establish asset limits and take into account parental income and assets for dependents under age 26 will have a negative impact on individuals, including individuals who may not have alternative options for coverage. Commenters expressed the opinion that requiring income and assets of parents of LIA participants may cause some to avoid medical care and should not be counted for this population. One commenter responded that requiring a means test will create a new pool of uninsured State residents and create major health access and financial barriers for thousands. Additional commenters expressed the opinion that it does not make sense to implement this proposal with the looming Medicaid expansion scheduled for 2014.

DSS acknowledges that some individuals will lose coverage under this Demonstration proposal. However, DSS believes the Waiver proposal is consistent with the original goal of expanding Medicaid coverage for the poorest adults and was never intended to provide coverage to individuals who might otherwise have the means to afford private or Charter Oak coverage. The proposed eligibility changes are modest in comparison to other options that are available to the State in order to live within State budgetary constraints and targets coverage to those who need it most. The State anticipates that a majority of the current LIA enrollees will continue to receive benefits as they do today. DSS also anticipates that others may qualify for other programs (i.e., the Charter Oak Health Plan or be categorically eligible for a long-term care coverage group under Medicaid and be more appropriately covered by such group) or private coverage. The State will assist members with pursuing alternative coverage options for their health care needs if necessary. Depending on the members' health care needs and financial situation, alternative coverage is available.

2. Demonstration impact on DSS workload and application backlog.

DSS received several comments that the Demonstration will have an additional negative impact on the workload of State staff and on the current processing of Medicaid eligibility determinations and redeterminations. Commenters expressed concern that processing delays will result in Medicaid and LIA participants losing coverage unnecessarily. Commenters cited the current challenges and deficiencies in the current application process and expressed concern that the eligibility changes proposed under LIA will exacerbate these problems and are not worth the consequences.

DSS will implement the 1115 LIA Waiver in a manner that will minimize its impact on our processing of applications and redeterminations for other programs. We will allow most current LIA participants to initially self-attest their assets and if appropriate, their parental income and assets, to determine their continued eligibility. Verifications will only be requested at time of application and redetermination. The Department plans to use a contractor to provide assistance with obtaining the information needed to establish continued eligibility.

DSS is also taking other measures to improve the timely processing of applications and redeterminations. The Department has hired additional staff to assist with the processing of Medicaid cases. Additionally, a directive has been issued to Regional managers to designate specific staff to immediately initiate redeterminations upon receipt. This should prevent the closure of most cases for failure to complete a redetermination.

3. DSS notices to LIA participants and applicants.

Several commenters were concerned with DSS' initial notification letter to LIA enrollees of the potential changes to LIA, pending approval by the federal government. Commenters expressed concern that these notices have caused confusion and concern and should not have been sent prior to federal approval of the application. The intent of these early notices was to give clients as much advance notice of the savings and intent of the budget as passed by the legislature in order to help clients prepare and plan for potential changes and support timely implementation of the Waiver upon approval by the federal government. However, in response to commenters' concerns and feedback from the federal government, DSS has revised its plans and will not send any additional client communications on this issue until the Demonstration request has been approved.

4. Section 1115 Demonstration Authority

DSS received comments that the Waiver does not meet the requirements for an 1115 Demonstration Waiver. Commenters also shared concerns that the sole purpose of the Waiver was to save the State money. While the determination of whether or not an application meets the requirements for an 1115 Demonstration is a determination for the federal government to make, DSS believes that an experimental Demonstration to test the ability of the State to expand coverage to low-income populations in a financially sustainable manner does promote the objectives of the Medicaid statute. Further, Connecticut intends to research and evaluate two important assumptions about the Medicaid "newly eligible" population that will benefit the learning of both the State and federal government: (1) That the treatment of income and assets under LIA may have provided an inadvertent incentive for individuals to forgo private coverage and (2) Individuals who will enroll in Medicaid as "newly eligible" will utilize long-term nursing facility benefits but have assets that they would be required to "spend-down" if qualified under Medicaid ABD rules. As described in the Waiver application, manageable program growth and expenses is but one of the goals of the Demonstration. Continuing coverage to the neediest citizens who may have no other options for coverage is the State's highest priority with the Demonstration.

5. Nursing facility benefit limitation

Several commenters expressed concern with the 90-day nursing facility benefit limitation for LIA enrollees and the process for finding alternative coverage, including other Medicaid coverage, notification of changes and the transition process for those losing coverage under the proposed Waiver. DSS appreciates these comments and recognizes the need for further evaluation of this proposal before a final decision can be made to implement this benefit change.

6. Adequacy of data supporting waiver estimates

DSS received comments and questions regarding the underlying data the State used to support the Demonstration proposal. Commenters inquired about data, including but not limited to estimates of the number of participants with assets over \$10,000, the number of dependents under age 26 with parental support, the availability and affordability of private coverage for dependents under age 26, costs and utilization patterns of current LIA enrollees, and data in support of

savings. The budget neutrality waiver estimates were developed utilizing a combination of actual program data, and where actual information is unavailable, assumptions were made. The cost and caseload estimates for the budget neutrality analysis are based on actual LIA claims and enrollment data. As certain financial information is not collected during the application process for LIA members, asset information and tax information are not available specific to this population. Therefore reasonable assumptions are utilized when modeling the impact of these changes in the eligibility criteria. The comments and questions related to the data and assumptions are more specific and targeted. Therefore more detailed responses to each of these questions will be found on the DSS website when individual responses are posted.

7. Impact on FQHCs and Hospitals

Some comments from FQHCs and hospitals expressed concern about the impact this Demonstration may have on the number of uninsured, application workload, the PCMH initiative and the expected loss of revenue due to lower numbers of Medicaid enrollees.

DSS anticipates that there will be minimal impact on hospitals and FQHCs. It is the DSS's expectation that most individuals who lose coverage under the new eligibility rules will seek other coverage. DSS will encourage and support clients' efforts to obtain and transition to other types of care including Charter Oak and other private health coverage. This should help ensure continuity of care and services for clients and minimize the risk of uncompensated care rendered by providers.

8. DSS assumptions about asset information

Some commenters expressed concern that DSS's position that individuals and families with dependents under age 26 may have access to parental coverage or otherwise be able to afford coverage was unfounded. DSS acknowledges that, in the absence of the Demonstration, we have been unable to collect this information from current LIA enrollees. DSS intends to use the Demonstration to test and evaluate this theory.

X. WAIVER AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITIES REQUESTED

Connecticut requests expenditure authority under Section 1115(a)(2) for expenditures for health care-related costs for non-pregnant adults ages 19 through 64 who are not

otherwise eligible under Medicare or CHIP, not described in 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I) through 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VII) of the Social Security Act, are residents of Connecticut, are citizens or eligible aliens, have limited assets and who have income at or below 55% of the FPL in accordance with Attachment A and the changes proposed under this Demonstration, including parental income and assets for individuals under age 26 who live with a parent or are claimed as a dependent on a parent's federal income tax return.

BUDGET NEUTRALITY XI.

This section presents Connecticut's approach for illustrating budget neutrality, including the data and assumptions used in the development of the cost and caseload estimates supporting this 1115 Waiver request.

Overview

Connecticut is requesting that the Demonstration begin on October 1, 2012 and end on December 31, 2013, or at the time in which the Medicaid "newly eligible" expansion to 133% of the FPL is put in place. Since this population is expected to be included as a part of the Medicaid expansion initiative effective January 1, 2014 under the ACA, this Demonstration is illustrated through December 31, 2013. The proposed Demonstration period is split into one 3-month period and one 12-month period as illustrated in the table below:

Table 9.1 Proposed Demonstration Years (DYs)

lable art brobosed perm	JIISTIALION TOURS (D.19)	
Demonstration Year	DY1	DY2
Time Period	10/01/2012 - 12/31/2012	01/01/2013 - 12/31/2013
TIME TOTAL		

Historical Cost and Caseload for the Medicaid LIA Demonstration Population

The Medicaid LIA program was approved with an effective date of April 1, 2010 and, therefore, data was available from April 2010 through June 2012 to support the development of the cost and caseload projections. The most recent data in 2012 was incomplete and was used only for limited trend analysis. Calendar year (CY) 2011 was chosen as the base year for developing the cost and caseload projections. The following tables (9.2a and 9.2b) present historical program expenditures and caseload from April 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011.

Table 9.2a Historical Data – Total Computable

Table 9.2a Histor	ical Data – Total Comput	:able	
	April 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010	January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011	21-Month Total
Medicaid LIA			

	April 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010	January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011	21-Month Total
Eligible Member Months	463,110	840,514	1,303,624
Total Cost per Eligible	\$758.86	\$724.84	
Total Expenditures	\$351,434,364	\$609,235,998	\$960,670,362
Trend Rates			
Eligible Member Months		97.6%	
Total Cost per Eligible		-5.1%	
Total Expenditures		87.5%	

Note:

1. Trend rates have been annualized.

Table 9.2b Historical Data - Federal Share

	April 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010	January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011	21-Month Total
Medicaid LIA			
Eligible Member Months	463,110	840,514	1,303,624
Total Cost per Eligible	\$455.29	\$399.44	
Total Expenditures	\$210,848,904	\$335,734,727	\$546,583,632
Trend Rates			
Eligible Member		97.6%	
Months			
Total Cost per Eligible		-13.9%	
Total Expenditures		70.2%	

Note:

1. Trend rates have been annualized.

Budget Neutrality Approach

The State proposes that the budget neutrality limit for Federal Title XIX funding be determined using a per capita cost method. The risk for the per capita cost would be applicable to the Medicaid eligibles in the Demonstration eligibility group, but the State would not be at risk for conditions (economic or other) that may impact caseload levels in the eligibility group for the Demonstration period.

Demonstration Eligibility Group

DSS is proposing a single Demonstration eligibility group comprised of all Demonstration enrollees to be subject to a per capita cost limit, as identified in Table 9.3 below. DSS requests that these Demonstration enrollees be treated as a "hypothetical" eligibility group for the purpose of budget neutrality.

Table 9.3 Demonstration E	Eligibility (Group
---------------------------	---------------	-------

Demonstration Eligibility Group	Description	Waiver Population Type	
Medicaid LIA	Populations include: Individuals ages 19 through 64 Not pregnant Ineligible for coverage under Medicare or CHIP Residents of Connecticut US citizens or eligible non-citizens; and Not described in 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I) through 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VII) of the Social Security Act	Medicaid State Plan	

Without Waiver Cost Estimates

The historical trend for the Medicaid LIA eligibility group and the President's budget per capita trend rates were reviewed. For the Demonstration projection years, the State utilized the President's budget per capita trend rates to develop the Without Waiver cost estimates.

The historical cost per eligible trend illustrated in Table 9.2a is not indicative of the assumed trends for the Demonstration periods. Two factors contributed to the observed negative per capita trends in the historical period. First, new members enrolled rapidly into the program, primarily from the ranks of the uninsured population. Second, the LIA program observed a significant increase in members under the age of 26. This age group has a much lower PMPM cost compared to the remaining LIA population. The new members, especially those under age 26, exhibited a large pent-up demand effect, reflecting higher than average acuity. This inflated costs during the early periods of the LIA program. The rapid increase in the under age 26 group coupled with their significantly decreasing costs (almost -25% annualized trend during the historical period) resulted in decreases to the observed PMPM costs in the historical data. These factors are not expected to continue in the Demonstration Years. The State utilized its own caseload estimates to project future enrollment projections for the Without Waiver estimates.

With Waiver Cost Projections

As DSS is requesting that the Demonstration enrollees are treated as a "hypothetical" eligibility group for the purpose of budget neutrality, the With Waiver cost and caseload estimates are the same as those utilized in the Without Waiver cost and caseload

estimates described in the section above.

Table 9.4 summarizes the average medical trend rates from the President's budget for the eligibility group during the Demonstration Periods.

Table 9.4 Without and With Waiver Annual Medical Cost Trend

- 11 o 4 Without and With Waiver Annual Medical Cost Ticha	
Table 9.4 Without and With Waiver Annual Medical Cost Trend DY1 to DY	'2
Demonstration Period	_
6 53%	
Adults	

ACA Considerations

The estimated impact of increased reimbursement for primary care physicians (PCPs) at 100% of Medicare for CY 2013 is not included in the With or Without Waiver projections. Connecticut will update budget neutrality as necessary once CMS issues final regulations and guidance.

The following tables (9.5a through 9.5d) summarize the trend rate and overall cost and caseload for the Demonstration population for both DY1 and DY2.

Table 9.5a Without Waiver - Total Computable

Table 9.5a V Eligibility Group	Trend Rate 1	Months Of	Base Year DY0	Trend Rate 2	DY1	DY2	Total Without Waiver
		Aging	10/01/11 - 09/30/12		10/01/12 – 12/31/12	01/01/13 - 12/31/13	
MLIA Eligible Member Months	17				237,979	826,934	1,064,913
Total Cost per Eligible	6.53%	9.00	\$760.03	6.53%	\$790.66	\$822.53	
Total Expenditure					\$188,161,301	\$680,177,244	\$868,338,545

Note:

- 1. "Base Year" is the year immediately prior to the planned first year of the Demonstration.
- 2. "Trend Rate 1" is the trend rate that projects from the last historical year to the Base
- 3. "Months of Aging" equals the number of months of trend factor needed to trend from the last historical year to the Base Year. If the Base Year is the year

- immediately following the last historical year, "Months of Aging" will be 12.
- 4. "Trend Rate 2" is the trend rate that projects all DYs, starting from the Base Year.
- 5. Demonstration Year cost per eligible figures are not adjusted for proposed changes to the nursing facility benefit limit that will be further evaluated by DSS.

Table 9.5b \ Eligibility Group	Without Trend Rate1	Waiver - Months Of Aging	- Federal S Base Year DY0	hare Trend Rate 2	DY1	DY2	Total Without Waiver
,		1.68	10/01/11 - 09/30/12		10/01/12 - 12/31/12	01/01/13 – 12/31/13	
MLIA Eligible Member Months					237,979	826,934	1,064,913
Total Cost per Eligible	6.53%	9.00	\$380.02	6.53%	\$395.33	\$411.26	
Total Expenditure					\$94,080,651	\$340,088,622	\$434,169,273

Note:

- 1. Assumes FMAP of 50.00% for the Demonstration period.
- 2. Demonstration Year cost per eligible figures are not adjusted for proposed changes to the nursing facility benefit limit that will be further evaluated by DSS.

Table 9.5c With Waiver - Total Computable

Table 9.5c With ' Eligibility Group	Base Year DY0	Demo Trend Rate	DY1	DY2	Total With Waiver
	10/01/11 - 09/30/12		10/01/12 – 12/31/12	01/01/13 - 12/31/13	
MLIA Eligible Member Months			237,979	826,934	1,064,913
Total Cost per Eligible	\$760.03	6.53%	\$790.66	\$822.53	
Total Expenditure			\$188,161,301	\$680,177,244	\$868,338,545

Note:

1. Demonstration Year cost per eligible figures are not adjusted for proposed changes

to the nursing facility benefit limit that will be further evaluated by DSS.

Eligibility Group	d With Waiver Base Year DY0	Demo Trend Rate	DY1	DY2	Total With Waiver
	10/01/11 - 09/30/12	Nate	10/01/12 - 12/31/12	01/01/13 - 12/31/13	
MLIA Eligible Member			237,979	826,934	1,064,913
Months Total Cost per	\$380.02	6.53%	\$395.33	\$411.26	
Total Expenditure			\$94,080,651	\$340,088,622	\$434,169,273

Note:

- 1. Assumes FMAP of 50.00% for the Demonstration period
- 2. Demonstration Year cost per eligible figures are not adjusted for proposed changes to the nursing facility benefit limit that will be further evaluated by DSS.

Summary of Budget Neutrality

The following tables (9.6a and 9.6b) summarize the total federal share Without and With Waiver estimated expenditures over the Demonstration period.

Table 9.6a Summary of Without Waiver and With Waiver Projected Medicaid

Expenditures - Total Computable*

Expenditures - Tota	l Computable*	
	With Waiver	Variance
Without Waiver	¢0C0 228 545	\$0
\$868,338,545	tunen the information ave	ilable at a point in time, and are

^{*} All estimates are based upon the information available at a point in time, and are subject to unforeseen and random events. Therefore, any projection must be interpreted as having a likely range of variability from the estimate. Any estimate or projection may not be used or relied upon by any other party or for any other purpose than for which it was issued by Mercer. Mercer is not responsible for the consequences of any unauthorized use.

Table 9.6b Summary of Without Waiver and With Waiver Projected Medicaid

Expenditures - Federal Share*

Expenditures - Fede	aral Share*	
	Martin Material	Variance
Without Waiver	With Walver	\$0
\$434,169,273	\$434,169,273	
\$434,109,275		•

* All estimates are based upon the information available at a point in time, and are subject to unforeseen and random events. Therefore, any projection must be interpreted as having a likely range of variability from the estimate. Any estimate or projection may not be used or relied upon by any other party or for any other purpose than for which it was issued by Mercer. Mercer is not responsible for the consequences of any unauthorized use.

Attachment A

OFFICIAL.

Revision:		ATTACHMENT 2.2-A. Page 9b4
	State:	CONNECTICUT
Agency*	Citation(s)	Groups Covered
	A.	Mandatory Coverage – Categorically Needy and Other Required Special Groups (Continued)
		In determining whether an individual's income is at or below the State's income standard for this group, the State will use the following methodology:
		The income rules of the SSI program.
		The income rules of the SSI program, and the following less restrictive income disregards and exclusions than are used by SSI.
		A methodology based on rules other than those of the SSI program. The methodology the State will use is described below.
		Disregard an additional 12% of FPL as a high shelter deduction for individuals in Region A as described in Supplement 1 to Attachment 2.6-A.
		Disregard \$150 of monthly earned income.
		Disregard all income for the three month period that begins with the first month that the individual would otherwise become ineligible solely due to an increase in earned income.
		Deduct from income medical expenses incurred by the individual or family or financially responsible relatives that are not subject to payment by a third party.
TN No. 10-00 Supersedes TN No. NEW	-	Date 6/21/10 Effective Date 4-1-10

Attachment B State Public Notice Documentation

Documentation of the state public process are in separate PDF files.

McCooey, Patricia E.

From:

McCooey, Patricia E.

Sent:

Wednesday, June 13, 2012 1:45 PM

To:

Prentiss, Sandie; 'bbozsum@moheganmail.com'; chilbert@moheganmail.com;

'cjanus@moheganmail.com'; 'dapicelli@moheganmail.com'

Cc:

Brennan, Kathleen M.; Beaulieu, Claudette J.; Shok; Marc C.; Schaefer, Mark C.; Zavoski,

Robert W.; Wolf, Marcea G.; Kolreg, Sallie; Love, Debra R.; Hyman, Phyllis E.

Subject:

Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver [not-secure]

Attachments:

mohegan tribe medicaid 1115 demonstr waiver.pdf; 1115waiverNew.pdf

Good afternoon -

On behalf of Commissioner Bremby, attached please find his letter to Chairman Bozsum concerning a Medicaid 1115 waiver application. A pdf of the draft application is also attached.

Thank you,

Trish McCooey

Trish McCooey
Staff Attorney
Office of Legal Counsel, Regulations and
Administrative Hearings
Department of Social Services
25 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06106
860.424.4873
patricia.mccooey@ct.gov



RODERICK L. BREMBY -Commissioner

OF CONNECTICUT STATE

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

TELEPHONE (860) 424-5053

TDD/TTY 1-800-842-4524

FAX (860) 424-5057

EMAIL commis.dss@ct.gov

June 12, 2012

Bruce S. Bozsum Chairman Mohegan Tribe 13 Crow Hill Road Uncasville, CT 06382

RE:

Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver

Dear Chairman Bozsum:

I am writing to inform you of a potential change to one of our Medicaid eligibility groups. Connecticut will be seeking a federal waiver under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act to make changes to the Medicaid coverage group for Low-Income Adults that was created under the Affordable Care Act. A copy of our proposed waiver application is attached for your consideration. We will be submitting the waiver to the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on or before August 13, 2012. We are fulfilling the federal requirement to consult with the Mohegan Tribe, as a federally-recognized tribe in Connecticut, and would welcome your comments and input.

Connecticut intends to make changes to its Medicaid (LIA) program in order to keep up with the unanticipated expenditure demands related to the program's continued growth. The LIA program currently provides coverage to 77,798 low-income adult residents of Connecticut ages 19-64, ineligible for coverage under Medicare or the Children's Health Insurance Program, with incomes at or below 55 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (with an additional 12% income disregard for shelter costs in Region A-primarily Fairfield County). Individuals who are pregnant or who receive SSI are ineligible for LIA.

These changes will preserve Connecticut's commitment to coverage for the most needy lowincome adults and provide manageable program growth and expenses from October 1, 2012 through December 2013, when the Affordable Care Act will expand Medicaid to this population in 2014.

In order to achieve this end, DSS proposes to implement a new Medicaid Section 1115 Demonstration coverage group to replace the current Medicaid State Plan LIA coverage group that was approved effective April 1, 2010. The Medicaid LIA demonstration waiver will retain the same eligibility requirements with the following exceptions. Effective October 1, 2012, DSS proposes to:

Implement an asset (resource) test of \$10,000 for all new and current LIA participants. Currently, there is no asset test for LIA eligibility; and

Chairman Bruce S. Bozsum June 12, 2012 Page 2

> Count parental income and assets for those individuals ages 19-25 living with a parent or claimed as a dependent on a parent's tax return.

Individuals receiving coverage under the Medicaid LIA 1115 Demonstration will continue to receive the Medicaid benefit package, with the exception of coverage for nursing facility stays. Coverage under the LIA demonstration will be limited to 90-days per admission and individuals in need of longer-term nursing facility stays will be encouraged to apply for Medicaid coverage under other eligibility groups that qualify for long-term care.

If you or any of your staff would like to meet to discuss the application, please let me know. Members of my staff consult regularly on issues related to our medical assistance programs with with Connie Hilbert and Carrie Janus of your Health and Human Services Department. If you have any questions concerning the application, please contact Mark Schaefer, Ph.D., Director, Medical Care Administration at (860) 424-5067.

Sincerely,

Mille T. Conf Roderick L. Bremby Commissioner

RLB

cc: Connie Hilbert, Executive Director of Health & Human Services, Mohegan Tribe
Carrie Janus, CHS Managed, Mohegan Tribe
Kathleen Brennan, Deputy Commissioner, DSS
Claudette Beaulieu, Deputy Commissioner, DSS
Marc Shok, Director, Adult Services
Mark Schaefer, Director, Medical Care Administration
Robert Zavoski, M.D., Medical Director
Patricia McCooey, Staff Attorney, DSS





State of Connecticut

JUL 18 2012

Dept. of Social Services Commissioner's Office

July 12, 2012

Roderick L. Bremby Commissioner State of Connecticut Department of Social Services 25 Sigourney Street Hartford, CT 06106-5033

Dear Commissioner Bremby:

The Mohegan Tribe would like to provide comment on your June 12, 2012, letter informing the Tribe of Connecticut's proposed waiver application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services requesting changes within the Medicald Low Income Adult (MLIA) program.

With regard to two of the proposed changes - the institution of an asset test and the inclusion of parental income, we offer the following:

- The Tribe is concerned that with the establishment of a \$10,000 asset test, even with the exclusion of home property and one motor vehicle, its members who might have otherwise qualified may no longer qualify.
- The changes proposed in the 1115 waiver will impede access to healthcare coverage for a vulnerable population who has already realized many challenging barriers to care.

We appreciate the opportunity to consult with you and look forward to continued updates on the status of the waiver application.

Sincerely,

Bruce S. Bozsum Chairman Mohegan Tribal Council

Cc:

Robert Zavoski, M.D., Medical Director Patricia McCooey, Staff Attorney, DSS

THE MOHEGAN TRIBE

McCooey, Patricia E.

From:

McCooey, Patricia E.

Sent:

Wednesday, June 13, 2012 1:41 PM

To:

'hbromley@mptn-nsn.gov'; 'bpoirier@mptn-nsn.gov'

Cc:

Brennan, Kathleen M.; Beaulieu, Claudette J.; Shok, Marc C.; Schaefer, Mark C.; Zavoski,

Robert W.; Wolf, Marcea G.; Kolreg, Sallie; Love, Debra R.; Hyman, Phyllis E.

Subject:

Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver [not-secure]

Attachments:

mashantucket tribal medicaid 1115 demonstr waiver.pdf; 1115waiverNew.pdf

Good afternoon -

On behalf of Commissioner Bremby, attached please find his letter to Chairman Butler concerning a Medicaid 1115 waiver application. A pdf of the draft application is also attached.

Thank you,

Trish McCooey

Trish McCooey
Staff Attorney
Office of Legal Counsel, Regulations and
Administrative Hearings
Department of Social Services
25 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06106
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patricia.mccooey@ct.gov



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

TELEPHONE (860) 424-5053

TDD/ITY 1-800-842-4524

FAX (860) 424-5057

EMAIL commis.dss@ct.gov

June 12, 2012

Rodney A. Butler Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation 2 Matts Path PO Box 3060 Mashantucket, CT 06338-3060 1-860-396-6100

RE: Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver

Dear Chairman Butler:

I am writing to inform you of a potential change to one of our Medicaid eligibility groups. Connecticut will be seeking a federal waiver under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act to make changes to the Medicaid coverage group for Low-Income Adults that was created under the Affordable Care Act. A copy of our proposed waiver application is attached for your consideration. We will be submitting the waiver to the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on or before August 13, 2012. We are fulfilling the federal requirement to consult with the Mashantucket Tribal Nation, as a federally-recognized tribe in Connecticut, and would welcome your comments and input.

Connecticut intends to make changes to its Medicaid (LIA) program in order to keep up with the unanticipated expenditure demands related to the program's continued growth. The LIA program currently provides coverage to 77,798 low-income adult residents of Connecticut ages 19-64, ineligible for coverage under Medicare or the Children's Health Insurance Program, with incomes at or below 55 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (with an additional 12% income disregard for shelter costs in Region A-primarily Fairfield County). Individuals who are pregnant or who receive SSI are ineligible for LIA.

These changes will preserve Connecticut's commitment to coverage for the most needy low-income adults and provide manageable program growth and expenses from October 1, 2012 through December 2013, when the Affordable Care Act will expand Medicaid to this population in 2014.

Chairman Rodney A. Butler June 12, 2012 Page 2

In order to achieve this end, DSS proposes to implement a new Medicaid Section 1115 Demonstration coverage group to replace the current Medicaid State Plan LIA coverage group that was approved effective April 1, 2010. The Medicaid LIA demonstration waiver will retain the same eligibility requirements with the following exceptions. Effective October 1, 2012, DSS proposes to:

- Implement an asset (resource) test of \$10,000 for all new and current LIA participants.
 Currently, there is no asset test for LIA eligibility; and
- Count parental income and assets for those individuals ages 19-25 living with a parent or claimed as a dependent on a parent's tax return.

Individuals receiving coverage under the Medicaid LIA 1115 Demonstration will continue to receive the Medicaid benefit package, with the exception of coverage for nursing facility stays. Coverage under the LIA demonstration will be limited to 90-days per admission and individuals in need of longer-term nursing facility stays will be encouraged to apply for Medicaid coverage under other eligibility groups that qualify for long-term care.

If you or any of your staff would like to meet to discuss the application, please let me know. Also, please be advised that members of my staff consult on issues related to our medical assistance programs with Barbara Poirier of your Health and Human Services Department. If you have any questions concerning the application, please contact Mark Schaefer, Ph.D., Director, Medical Care Administration at (860) 424-5067.

Sincerely,

Roderick L. Brendby Commissioner

RLB

Cc: Barbara J. Poirier, Director, Tribal Health Services, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation Kathleen Brennan, Deputy Commissioner, DSS Claudette Beaulieu, Deputy Commissioner, DSS Marc Shok, Director, Adult Services Mark Schaefer, Director, Medical Care Administration Robert Zavoski, M.D., Medical Director Patricia McCooey, Staff Attorney, DSS

From: Puckett, Olivia [mailto:Olivia.Puckett@cqa.ct,qov]

Sent: Friday, June 15, 2012 4:10 PM

To: Mgeertsma@STMH.org; s.amdur@snet.net; acole@staywellhealth.org; gagllardi@chc1.com; <u>annette,buckley@ctunitedway.org;</u> Wolf, Barbara; Beaulieu, Claudette J.; <u>BDavis@hrsa.goy;</u> Bocaccino, Maryellen; Bremby, Roderick L.; carol.trapp@acs-inc.com; BCheney@wcmh.org; csayold@benecare.com.; Cbianchi@staywellhealth.org; Cohen, Robin; Colangelo, Steven A.; CGelb@hrsa.gov; Harrington, Colleen; Welzenbaum, David B; Dearborn, David S.; debaprn@aol.com; Evans Starr, Julia; Dileo, Paul; donald langer@uhc.com; Balaski, Donna; Dowd, Judith; Andrews@cthealthpolicy.org; Dudley, Evelyn A.; Ferron-Poole, Astread O.; rosa.ficocelli@ct.gov.; Foley, Anne; gdlgloia@chnct.org; Ganesan, Uma; latinoexpo@snet.net; Dorysblue@sbcglobal.net; Halsey, William; Hutchinson, Jennifer L; Gott, Jason T.; Milstein, Jeanne; Jwalter@rushford.org; KYacavone@swchc.org; Sinko, Kelly; Kolreg, Sallie; iacqueline.kozin@PO.STATE.CT.US; Franklin, Marie A; Keenan, Mark; Schaefer, Mark C.; Kmartin@griffinhealth.org; mmilkovic@benecare.com; malee@ctkidslink.org; McEvoy, Kate; McGuire, Susan R.; Marie.Montemagno@CMS.hhs.gov; mmorell@canpfa.org; Mary.Moriarty@cms.hhs.gov; cocallahan@midhosp.org; Rehmer, Pat; paula.armbruster@aya.yale.edu; Silverman, Phyllis; Coleman-Mitchell, Renee; Rep. Abercrombie, Catherine; zRepresentative Craig Miner; Rep. Ritter, Elizabeth; zRepresentative Lile Gibbons; Rep. Schofield, Linda; Rep. Cook, Michelle; Rep. Villano, Peter; Rep. Johnson, Susan, Rep. Walker, Toni; Vnardello@aol.com; bqrubbs@ccahelping.org; Spencer, Richard; Zavoski, Robert W.; aselinger@ProHealthMD.com; Sen. Musto, Anthony; Sen. Gerratana, Terry; Sen. Kane, Rob; Smith, Carol R; Soulsby, Joan; Steve.Mackinnon@ACS-INC.COM; Skelly@chnct.org; Treiss, Carolyn; Veltri, Victoria; <u>Jesse@ctschoolhealth.org</u>; <u>wodatch@CAHCH.org</u>; Wolf, Marcea G.; WOLMAN, FREDERICKA; THOMAS.WOODRUFF@PO.STATE.CT.US; kpajor@beechwoodrehab.net; Norwood, Joel C.; s.amdur@snet.net; gagliardi@chc1.com; McFarlane, Carole B.; CBlanchi@staywellhealth.org; debapm@aol.com; Dorysblue@sbcqlobal.net; Kane, Brittany; slanger@ctkidslink.org.; Silverman, Phyllis; Rep. Ritter, Elizabeth; Rep. Cook, Michelle; Rep. Tercyak, Peter; Rep. Villano, Peter; Rep. Johnson, Susan; Rep. Walker, Toni; VNardello@aol.com; Rep. Nardello, Vickie; Sen. Gerratana, Terry; Sen. Harp, Toni; Smith, Maureen; Jwalter@rushford.org; McDermott, Gaia; ACort@ynhcmg.org; publicpolicy@namict.org; agoduti@ccpa-inc.org; ann.hogan@ynhh.org; annette.buckley@ctunitedway.org; Cournover@chime.org; bweeks@TheKowalskiGroup.com; creasel@gmail.com; alevinbecker@ctmirror.org; Henry, Beverley; abeyus@chcact.org; Bocaccino, Maryellen; david.bordonaro@mcleancare.org; kbb@stateside.com; Buckley, Melissa; WAMUO, CHERYL; Chillington, Yulia; christine.cappiello@anthem.com; iclark@rc.com; ccatrone@cmhacc.org; corinavendetto@sbcglobal.net; dwhite@ctstransit.com; dcrane@genhealth.org; KDemers@DayKimball.org; dconsiglio@chnct.org; Avery, Dominique; edie61066@hotmail.com; ehackett@villageforchildren.org.; elisa.jacobs@cms.hhs.gov; Garcia, Erica L.; Eclark@ccpa-inc.org; ebarnum@chcact.org; bfairbairn@newsamaritancorp.org; jfay@vna-commh.org; fbf.wws@cox.net; Gary.Smart@YNHH.org; bgauthier@hebrewhealthcare.org; egemski@murthalaw.com; GBass@qhla.org; Equaljustice1966@aol.com; hfeltonreld@rc.com; Carrie.Hart@chshartford.org; hteed@ccpa-inc.org; Hoyt@cahch.org; jhughes@HughesandCronin.com; jmcnichol@larcc.org; jbell@ctkldslink.org; JMcNichol@larcc.org; jsicklic@kidscounsel.org; jwaskiel@stfranciscare.org; jcronin@hughesandcronin.com; Bernier, Jennifer; jesse@ctschoolhealth.org; joan a morgan@UHC.com; joann@cfapress.org; KelseyEWilson@gmail.com; KPrzybysz@aol.com; Dowty, Kristin; ct.lobbyist@gmail.com; Honlgfeld@uchc.edu; Irusso@wheelerclinic.org; Barrera, Laura Victoria; Cook, Lawrence; Iserota@benecare.com; Vander Baan, Lee R.; Lori.Szczygiel@valueoptions.com; lorraine.furbush@ynhh.org; malloyi@oddfellowsct.com; jmangene@HillHealthCenter.com; Franklin, Marie A; Macyr@chnct.org; smcpherson@masonlcare.org; meyers@adp.uchc.edu; dmiller@chnct.org; monette@cthealth.org; mmorelil@canpfa.org; pmorse@ctbaptisthomes.org; griffin@lobbyct.com; Dube, Nicole; knystrom@newenglandhomecare.com; akeefe@ct.metrocast.net; hpaek4kids@gmail.com; Passaro; Cara; <u>Perkins@CONNECTICARE.com</u>; <u>Pandl114@aol.com</u>; Pope, Michelle; Weiser, Rebecca (Rivka); <u>RMHoffmann@dhs.rj.gov</u>; RobinH@logisticare.com; O'Connor, Rod; shalpin@rc.com; SToubman@nhlegal.org; SCohen@Wheelerclinic.org; siwaniec@ctstransit.com; SParker-McKernan@larcc.org; saul.spigel@po.state.ct.us; Scalettar, Ellen; slanger@ctkidslink.org; elizabeth.shorrock@boehringer-ingelheim.com; Barrett, Tanya; Edelstein, Terry; Rugens, Theresa N.; waldent@ctseniorcare.org; Puckett, Olivia; Deborah; aabissonnette@hotmail.com; pbelval@umh.org; mbloom@romesmlthiutz.com; bweeks@thekowalskigroup.com; Cole, Molly; dpolun@chcact.org; howard.mark1@comcast.net; fbf.wws@cox.net; bfiocchetta@mchct.org; pgilland@churchhomes.org;

aselinger@prohealthmd.com; Jamesmc@logisticare.com; Jtraver@harthosp.org; judlth.dowd@ct.gov; Evans Starr, Julia; Brennan, Kathleen M.; Sinko, Kelly; klalime@csms-ipa.com; wkowalewski@jhe.org; mkurban@abhct.com; liverson@wcmh.org; egemski@murthalaw.com; maonelli@ccpa-inc.org; Ali, MaryBeth; matthew.gianquinto@gmail.com; Mike.Towers@ACS-INC.COM; mrwindt@underoneroofinc.org; joseph.oros@boehringer-ingelheim.com; Cronin, Patricia; gravelg@whitneycenter.com; robertp@logisticare.com; Robinh@Logisticare.com; lrusso@chcact.org; Scott, Haley; Steven.Moore@valueoptions.com; walkovich2000j@aol.com; Cezito@magellanhealth.com; ecollins@newenglandhomecare.com; saraf@namict.org; Messner, Theresa A.; McFarlane, Carole B.; Boulay, Elleen; darnold@mpsphysiclans.com; klalime@csms-ipa.com; ebamum@chcact.org; rsmanlk@dayklmball.org; ireed@prohealthmd.com; mtaylor@hillhealthcenter.com; Paul.Lilstro@arborsct.com; masselm@chc1.com; Steve.Schramm@Optumas.com; kpajor@beechwoodrehab.net; Norwood, Joel C.
Subject: MAPOC Waiver 1115 LIA Public Hearing

There will be a Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight Public Hearing on Waiver 1115 LIA on Tuesday June 26, 2012 at 10:00 AM in LOB ROOM 1D.

The document attached is the draft waiver application.

1115 DEMONSTRATION DRAFT WAIVER APPLICATION TO THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES MEDICAID LOW-INCOME ADULT COVERAGE DEMONSTRATION

Sign Up Details to follow.

Warmest regards,

Olivia Puckett

Legislative Staff: Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight
Legislative Office Building Room 3000
Hartford, CT 06106
(P) 860-240-0321
(F)860-240-0023
http://www.cga.ct.gov/ph/medicaid/
olivia.puckett@cga.ct.gov

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Subject:

FW: LIA Waiver [not-secure]

From: Kaplan, David [mailto:David.Kaplan@cga.ct.gov]

Sent: Monday, June 18, 2012 2:23 PM

To: Cormack, Marilyn; Dileo, Paul; Larcen, Stephen, Gov. hospital apopintment; Rep. Christopher Lyddy, Chair; Acker, Paul; ANDERSSON, KAREN; BERKOWITZ, LOIS; Calvert, Rick, SE CT Child OP; Carboni, Sandy for S. Larcen; Carrier, Kathleen Familles United, CC, DCF SC; Charles Herrick, MD; Creel, Teddi L.; Deasy, Thomas; DelBianco, Doreen; Dillon, Rep. Patricia; DiPietro, Terri Middlesex Hosp.; Dowd, Judith; Drescher, Howard; Dudley, Evelyn A.; Eason, George; Fleming, Ronald ADRC, Inc.; Foley-Geib, Catherine, Judical; Franks, Robert; Gammon, Davis MD; Gates, Heather Sen Kissel designee; Gibber, Hal, Favor; Gibbons, Rep. Lile; Girelli, Steven, Ph.D Klingberg; Gott, Jason T.; Grivols, Lorna Families United Family rep.; Halsey, William; Hamilton, Robin, General Manager Logisticare; Hanna, Nora, MD IOL; Hardy, Margaret St. Vincent's Hosp.; Harrington, Colleen; Henry, Beverly Adm. PHC; Hopes, Daisy, DMHAS Comm. Rehmer; Hutchinson, Jennifer L; Kramer, Mickey; Langer, Sharon Sen. Williams designee; Lim, Sabina, MD, YNHH; Lock, Linda for G. Rodriguez; Mackey, Jocelyn; Meyers, Judith, CHDI; Mezzy, Randl; Nystrom, Kimberly New England Homecare; Oakes, Deborah, CHNCT Dir. Care Management; Orsini, Sue for T. King; Peggy Delewski for Dr. Herrick; Perlstein, Sherry, Rep. Gibbons designee; Phenix, Kelly, Rep. Donovan's designee; Pointer, Robin for M. Schaefer; Quin. J uhc; Rehmer, Pat; Rep. Toni Walker, Chair, Approp. Comm.; Rep.Craig Miner, RM, Approp Comm.; Rep.Elizabeth Ritter, Chair PH Comm.; Rodriquez, Galo, CEO Village for Children & Families; Salabarria, Javier, MD Rep Perillo designee; Santa, María; Schaefer, Mark C.; Sen. Robert Kane, RM HS Comm.; Sherman, Kimberly CHNCT; Smith, Carol R; Smith, Maureen; Spencer, Richard; Sullivan-Wiley, Janine, Sen. Kane's designee; Szczygiel, Lori CEO CT VOI BHP; Treiss, Carolyn; Walkama, Susan, Wheeler Clinic Adult OP; Walter, Jeffrey, Chair; Welch, Rachel OFA; White-Fresse, Jesse, Ex. Dir. SBHC Assoc.; Wilson, Bereford, Parent; Wolf, Marcea G.; Woods, Leslie; Woodsby, Alicia; Zuckerman, Steven; DiLoreto, Joanna CCPA; Lawson, Gall, Sound Community Services; Lidz, Christine Bridges, Milford; Murtagh Roberta cnvhelp; Allison Keefe; Amy O'Connor, Policy Assistant, NAMICT; Andrews, L Ct nonprofits; Ann Hogan, YNHH G Rel.; Anthony Del Mastro, Children's CenterHamden; barbara sheldon family Advocate; Beauregard, Kim , Intercommunity, Inc; Becker, Alevin Ct Mirror; Beth Klink, YNHHH; Bilangi, Richard ct counseling Center; Bissell, M APT Foundation; Boyer, Katie B. Stateside; Carol Powers ABHCT; Cheryl Burack, Ex. Dir, Coord. Council Children in Crisis; Cohen, Sandra Dir. Quality - Wheeler Clinic; Connie Catrone, CMHC; Cook, R Harbor Health Services; Cynthia Nereo-Pearson, Child&Family, Esex; Duffy Cichowski; Edward Hackett, Village for children; Elizabeth Collins; elizabeth.shorrock, Boehringer-Ingelheim; Garcia, Erica L.; Faris, Susan VNA; Fay, Janine VNA; Gary Steck, Waterbury CGC; Gina Hoff, Cust. Service Mger, Wheeler; Hilary Felton-Reid, R&C; Jean Adnopoz, YCSC; Jean M. Cronin; Jill Benson, Community Health Resources; Jon Clemens ct non profits; Joyce Cunbar, Family Advocate, MHA of CT; JORDAN, JUDI; Ken Przybysz; Linda Russo, Wheeler Clinic MC, UM; Manning, dianne United Services; Marie Mormile-Mehler CMHACC; Marjorie Brault, adm asst. CHA; Mary Gratton, Hartford Hosp.; Matthews, Shella Able Child; McGovern, B Keystone House, Norwalk; Mckeon, Sr. Patricia, Mercy Housing; Murray, Wendy Harbor health services; Nadeau, Allyson Valueoptions; Naida Arcenas, APRN, DCF; Nancy Navarretta; O'Neill, Mary Anne CCPA; Oros, Joseph, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals; Palermcrae, C APT Foundation; Parker, Colleen Ct non- profits; Randolph, L APT Foundation; S. Godfrey, New Britain Hospital; Sara Frankel; Schiessi, Carl CHA; Scott, S Harbor health services; Sheldon Toubman, NH LA; Simon, Barry Gilead CS; Stewart Greenbaum, Norwalk CGC; Sullivan, Brian, Esq.; Susan Halpin, R & C, lobbyist; Teed, Hillary, Publ Health Policy CCPA; Edelstein, Terry; Veltri, Victoria; Weeks, Brad, The Kowalski Group; Wright, Juanita Hill IHealth Center; Zito, Cathy, Magellan health

Cc: Abraham, Robin, NEHC; Amdur, Shella; Anderson Diaz, Teodoro; Chin, Alyse; Clark, Logan; Coogan, Susan; Cook, Roberta; Cormack, Marilyn; Deck, Letha; DiPietro, Terri; Donahue, Erin; Fissel, Michaela; Galambos, Kate; Gallagher, Jennifer; Gamelin, Yvonne; Gridley, Elizabeth; Hernandez, Juan; Herrick, Charles; Hutchinson, Jennifer L; Incerti, Victor; Kaplan, David; Kasdan, Barry; Kearney, Colleen; King, Tom; Klein, David; Klink, Beth; Kolstad, Lisa; Liberti-Poeta, Victoria; Mastrianni, Linda; Michaelsen, Diane; Mitchell, Cyrece; Moore, Steven; Nescott, Mary; O'Hagan-Lynch, Margaret; Patota, Michael; Patrick, Nancy; Phelan, Ann; Pisclotta, James; Polun, Debra; Reid, Howard; Siemianowski, James; Spinner, Kira; Struzinski, Debra; Turi, Sue; Ulm, Kathy; Vanderheide, Laurie; Walkama, Susan; Williamson, Deena; Woodsby, Alicia; Wyzik, Philip F; Iwaniec, Sandy, Coordinated Transportation Solutions,Inc; Keefe, Allison chshartford; Anderson, Robyn ABHCT; Benoit, Helen Wheeler Clinic; Blei, Judy; Bragg, Cheri - KTP Coordinator, Keep

the Promls, Namict; Buckley-Bates, Karen; Burr, Thomas Namict; Chase, Michelle Family Advocate; Chillington, Yulia; Cole, Molly UCHC; Colvin, kevin Valueoptions; Cyr, Mary Ann CHNCt; DiGioia, Gail CHNCT; Evertson, Karen; Fannon, Eileen, Logisticare; Fiore, Maureen; Fletcher, Barbara DSS; Geertsma, Alex MD; Gianquinto, Matt; Halarewicz, Agnes CTBHP/VO; Hammond, Elizabeth; Henry, Brenetta; Honigfeld, Lisa CHDI; Huntoon, Tiffany CHNCT; GEORGE, JAMES; Kelly, Sylvia CHNCT; Kurban, Marlene ABH; Langer, Sharon CTVoices Co-Chair; Lee, Mary Alice CTVoices; Liebel, Brian AETNA BH: MacDonald, James Aetna; mangasarova, E Aetna; Martocchio, Family rep; Mathis, Ellen; Mayo, Sabra Family rep.; McMellon, James: Logisticare Transportation; Miller, Martha; Nardini, Candice VOI; PIZZUT, B Hartford Hosp; Porteus, Sandy, FS Waterbuty; Quinn, Sandra CTBHP/VO Dir. of UM; Robinson, Jennifer, CTBHP/VO; Sabo, Janet AETNA ; Savold, Chris, BeneCare; Schaefer, Mark C.; Snyder, Kathleen 1st Transit; Spencer, Richard; Steven Kant, CTBHP; Strigler, Donna CTS Transportation; Taylor, Amy; Tomer, Muriel ct-behavioral-outreach; Tournas, Michelle; Vander Baan, Lee R.; WAMUO, CHERYL; Ward-Zimmerman, Barbara; White, David CTS Transportation; Williams, Michael ABHCT; Williams, Shawn Aetna; Wilson, Dr. Sweets Child BH Catholic Chairities; WOLMAN, FREDERICKA; Woods, Kristin AmeriChoice; Zavoski, Robert W.; A. Caplin; Alvarez, Annie; Ann Turkington; Blair Maclachian; C. Kravitz; Charles Hatheway; Cheryl Entwisle; Christine Dauser; D. Dorman; D. McGrath; Denise Keane; E. Nester; E. Rodriguez; Florence Griffin; Fredyne Pell; H. Finateri; hoyt@cahch.org; J. Gleckle; J. Goodwin; J. Iseminger; J. Olender; J. Osborne; J. Riker; 1, Sullivan; Jefrey Batulevitz; Jennifer Kurowski; Jennifer Pease; John Hamilton; Joseph F. Marafito; Joseph Sullivan; Kyra Lorde; L. Ladden; L. Valentine; Linda D. Roderick; Linda Guillorn; Linda Mastrianni; M. Dimenstein; M. Painter; M. Rios; MaryAnn Berube; Michael Weiner; N. Belisle; N. Cumming; N. Scibelli ; P. L. Walker; P. Maloney; Paul Iadorola; R. Gorman; Regina Moller; Rob Caporaso; S. O'Connell; MCWILLIAMS, SCOTT; Stephanie Licsak; Creel, Teddi L.; Timothy Odaynik; Tom Narducci; U. Bhan; Valerie Williams; W. Young; ANDERSSON, KAREN; Andrade, Angela; Barnes, Helen; Bellenoit, Jamie; Halsey, William; Bory, Chris; Carmarca, Arlene; Casey, Mary; Chin, Alyse; Coloccia, Ellen; Contrastano, Dorothy; Cretaro, Ron; Del Mastro, Anthony; Farrell, Jacquelyn; Harmon, Angle; Jennings, Irvin; Jennings, Irvin; Kane, Marcy: Kania, Bill: Kramer, Mickey: Lockery, Sarah; Lyga, Dan; MCKEAGNEY, ROBERT; Moore, Steven; oore@valueoptions.com; Navarretta, Nancy; Nelson, Klm; Neveski, Joan; PLANT, ROBERT; Ringer, Lynne; Schiessl, Kathy; Ulm, Kathy; Wilcox, Brenda

Subject: FW: LIA Waiver [not-secure]

Importance: High

FYI - Please Read the message below. If you have any comments an/or questions, please contact Patricia McCooey, Staff Attorney at DSS. Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Kaplan

Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Council Legislative Office Building Room 3000 Hartford, CT 06106 860-240-0346 Info Line 860-240-8329 (F) 860-240-5306 david.kaplan@cga.ct.gov

From: McCooey, Patricia E. [mallto:Patricia.McCooey@ct.gov]

Sent: Monday, June 18, 2012 2:05 PM

To: Kaplan, David

Cc: Puckett, Olivia; Treiss, Carolyn Subject: LIA Waiver [not-secure]

Importance: High

David - Good afternoon. I am writing to request your assistance with the 1115 Medicaid waiver that the Department of Social Services will be submitting to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. A copy of a public notice concerning the waiver demonstration and the actual waiver application are attached. I would like you to send the attached to the email list of Behavioral Health Partnership Oversight Committee members and any committee/subcommittee lists.

Also, although the public notice period in the newspaper was June 13, 2012 to July 13, 2012, it would be helpful for you to note that the Department will also accept comments until July 18, 2012, or 30 days from the date of your sending the email (whichever is later).

If you could also copy me on the email or forward a copy, I would greatly appreciate it.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Trish McCopey

Trish McCooey
Staff Attorney
Office of Legal Counsel, Regulations and
Administrative Hearings
Department of Social Services
25 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06106
860.424.4873
patricia.mccooey@ct.gov

MEDICAID FOR LOW-INCOME ADULTS

PROPOSED NEW MEDICAID 1115 DEMONSTRATION WAIVER APPPLICATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) proposes to submit a new application for a Medicaid Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Connecticut intends to make changes to its Medicaid for Low-Income Adults (LIA) program in order to keep up with the unanticipated expenditure demands of the current program's growth. The LIA program currently provides coverage to 77,798 low-income adult residents of Connecticut ages 19-64, ineligible for coverage under Medicare or the Children's Health Insurance Program, with incomes at or below 55 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (with an additional 12% income disregard for shelter costs in Region A-primarily Fairfield County). Individuals who are pregnant or who receive SSI are ineligible for LIA.

These changes will preserve Connecticut's commitment to coverage for the most needy low-income adults and provide manageable program growth and expenses from October 1, 2012 through December 2013, when the Affordable Care Act will expand Medicaid to this population in 2014.

Pursuant to the provisions of 42 CFR § 431.408, DSS is providing a public notice and comment period concerning the application from June 13, 2012 through July 12, 2012. Please see the Public Comment and Public Hearings sections, below, for information how to provide input on the application.

Also, state law requires a public comment period concerning Medicaid waivers and demonstrations. Please see the Public Comment section below for additional information on the public hearing that will be held pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 17b-8.

Demonstration Description and Eligibility

DSS proposes to implement a new Medicaid Section 1115 Demonstration coverage group to replace the current Medicaid State Plan LIA coverage group that was approved effective April 1, 2010 and replaced the previous State-only funded SAGA medical assistance program. The Medicaid LIA demonstration waiver will retain the same eligibility requirements that currently apply to the Medicaid State Plan LIA coverage group with the following exceptions. Effective October 1, 2012, DSS proposes to:

Implement an asset (resource) test of \$10,000 for all new and current LIA participants.
 Currently, there is no asset test for LIA eligibility; and

 Count parental income and assets for those individuals ages 19-25 living with a parent or claimed as a dependent on a parent's tax return.

Demonstration Benefits and Delivery System

Individuals receiving coverage under the Medicaid LIA 1115 Demonstration will continue to receive the Medicaid benefit package, with the exception of coverage for nursing facility stays. Coverage under the LIA demonstration will be limited to 90 days per admission and individuals in need of longer-term nursing facility stays will be encouraged to apply for Medicaid coverage under other eligibility groups that qualify for long-term care.

Medicaid LIA 1115 Demonstration participants will receive services through the existing Medicaid delivery system and provider network at the Medicaid state plan reimbursement rates.

There will continue to be no cost-sharing requirements for participants in the Medicaid LIA 1115 Demonstration.

Estimated Impact on Expenditures and Enrollment

DSS estimates that savings from the initiative will be approximately \$52 million in SFY13. In addition, DSS estimates that during SFY13, 15,000 to 20,000 LIA participants will lose eligibility as a result of the proposed changes.

Demonstration Evaluation

DSS proposes to use the Medicaid LIA Demonstration experience to better understand the cost and utilization patterns of the Medicaid expansion population in 2014, and to better understand the reasons and extent to which families with dependents under age 26 seek coverage under Medicaid as an alternative to continued parental coverage available under the Affordable Care Act.

Federal Authority Requested

DSS will request that CMS provide expenditure authority under section 1115(a)(2) of the Social Security Act in order for Connecticut to cover individuals under the Medicaid LIA Demonstration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Information on Obtaining Section 1115 Waiver Draft Application

Copies of the application may also be requested by mail or email from Mark Schaefer, Ph.D. Director, Medical Care Administration, DSS, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5033 (Phone: 860-424-5067, Fax: 860-424-5114, Email: LIA1115.dss @ct.gov.)

DSS wishes to make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities throughout this public comment process. You may contact DSS at the addresses above if you need this notice or

other demonstration materials in an alternative accessible format or need any other accommodations that will allow you to participate in this process.

For additional questions concerning the public process, please contact (860) 424-4873.

Electronic Mailing List

If you wish to register to receive emails related to future actions on this waiver, please send an email request to: LIA1115.dss @ct.gov.

Public Comments

DSS will accept comments on the waiver application for a 30-day period starting June 13, 2012 through and including July 13, 2012. Comments may be sent to: Mark Schaefer, Ph.D., Director, Medical Care Administration, DSS, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5033 (Phone: 860-424-5067, Fax: 860-424-5114, Email: LIA1115.dss @ct.gov.)

Public Hearings

There will be two public hearings on the waiver: 1) Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight Public Hearing, June 26, 2012, 10:00 a.m., Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT, Room 1-D. For further information: www.cga.ct.gov; and 2) DSS Hearing — June 28, 2012, 10:00 a.m., New Haven Free Public Library - Courtland S. Wilson Branch, 303 Washington Avenue New Haven, CT 06519, (203) 946-2228.

Members of the public are invited to attend and present their views on the application at either of these hearings.

State Legislative Hearing

The Appropriations Committee and Human Services Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly will also hold a hearing on the demonstration application on July 24, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT, in accordance with the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 17b-8(a), as amended by Section 144 of Public Act 11-144. Additional information concerning this hearing will be available on the Connecticut General Assembly website, www.cga.ct.gov. This hearing will also be announced in the July 3, 2012 Connecticut Law Journal.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

SECTION 1115 DEMONSTRATION DRAFT WAIVER APPLICATION TO THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

MEDICAID LOW-INCOME ADULT COVERAGE DEMONSTRATION

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- IV. Demonstration Eligibility
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- VI. Demonstration Delivery System
- VII. Estimated Impact on Expenditures and Enrollment
- VIII. Demonstration Hypothesis and Evaluation Parameters
- IX. Waiver and Expenditure Authorities Requested

Connecticut Department of Social Services Section 1115 Demonstration Authority Request for Medicaid Low-Income Adult (LIA) Coverage Demonstration DRAFT

A Sustainable Approach to Providing Medicaid Coverage to Low-Income Adults in the State of Connecticut

I. INTRODUCTION

The State of Connecticut (Connecticut/State) has led the nation in providing coverage to the uninsured. The effort undertaken to serve individuals through the Medicaid for Low-income Adults (LIA) program effective April 1, 2010 reflects our long commitment to ensuring that our citizens have access to quality health care. While the program has been exceptionally successful in providing coverage, its growth has spurred the need to seek a more targeted program, sustaining services for those with the most significant need and few alternatives for coverage.

II. BACKGROUND

Connecticut has long demonstrated its commitment to health care coverage for its most vulnerable citizens. For several decades, the State and its municipalities administered a general assistance program to provide medical assistance to low-income uninsured adults. In 1998, the legislature established the State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) program, which transferred all administrative and financial responsibility for the general assistance program to the State. On June 21, 2010 Connecticut became the first state in the nation to gain approval from the federal government to expand Medicaid coverage to an estimated 45,000 individuals under Section 2001 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). This new Medicaid LIA program included individuals who were previously enrolled in a more limited benefit package under SAGA. The conversion provided long-term care/skilled nursing facility services and home health care benefits to this population, provided greater access to non-emergency medical transportation, and expanded the provider network available to participants. Although income eligibility remained unchanged at 56% of the federal poverty level (FPL) (with an additional 12% income disregard for shelter costs in Region A/Fairfield County), the SAGA asset limit of \$1,000 was eliminated to comply with federal requirements. (Note: The FPL limit was updated in 2012 to 55% of the FPL.)

The Medicaid expansion for low-income adults has resulted in significant unbudgeted costs. Since the program's expansion, the State has been grappling with the unanticipated consequences of escalating caseloads and the resultant costs. Elimination

Page 3 Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver Draft Application for State Public Input of the asset test, poor economic conditions, as well as inclusion of populations who did not formerly qualify for SAGA, created an unanticipated level of caseload growth, increasing by 67% from 46,156 clients in June 2010 to 77,015 clients in April 2012. The June 2012 caseload is 77,798. In State fiscal year (FY) 2011, Connecticut spent \$575.6 million; in FY 09, the year prior to the expansion, expenditures were \$265.6 million. This increased caseload created significant state FY 11 shortfalls in the funding that supports Medicaid LIA services, with shortfalls totaling \$160 million. Last year when the FY 12 and FY 13 budget was being developed, the projected FY 11 shortfall (at that time, projected at \$139 million), was trended forward into the estimates for FY 12 and FY 13. Yet, despite this, the current caseload level of more than 77,000 was not projected to be reached until November 2013. Even with the annualization of prior year shortfalls, the higher caseloads are causing another projected shortfall in FY 12 of approximately \$50 million for the Medicaid LIA program. In the last six months, caseload has increased 5% and It is expected to continue to grow in the foreseeable future.

The Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) has undertaken major investments in resources to support improvements in care and service delivery for Medicaid populations, including the LIA population. These initiatives are intended to support the transformation of the service delivery system and the data available to participants in that system to continuously drive better performance. At the same time, DSS is pursuing a number of access, quality and cost-containment efforts that are intended to reduce the rate of program growth. Examples of these initiatives include:

- The establishment of a single statewide medical administrative services organization (ASO) to undertake customer service, utilization management, intensive care management and quality management for LIA and other medical assistance populations. There will be a special focus on health risk stratification and health data analytics to improve population health management and support targeted intensive care management. Other data analytics will support provider profiling and pay for performance initiatives;
- The Connecticut Person-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) initiative supported by the contracted medical ASO with performance measures and incentives; and
- The Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (BHP), a joint initiative with the
 Departments of Children and Families and Mental Health and Addiction Services
 to establish an integrated system for the management of behavioral health
 services for Medicaid, including Medicaid LIA, members.

Despite these efforts, given current budgetary conditions, Connecticut estimates that caseload growth in the Medicaid LIA program has created an expansion program that has become financially unsustainable through the end of 2013 when 100% federal funding is expected to be available to cover the costs of these individuals in 2014.

III. DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL: DESCRIPTION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Connecticut must make changes to the Medicaid LIA program in order to keep up with the expenditure demands of program growth. To date, such growth is well beyond the level that had been budgeted and, in the absence of such changes, will jeopardize the State's ability to provide coverage to its most needy citizens. Effective October 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013, or whenever coverage becomes available to demonstration participants as "newly eligibles" under ACA, Connecticut proposes to implement a new coverage group under Section 1115 demonstration authority that will replace the current state plan Medicaid LIA coverage group authorized under Section 1902(k)(2) of the Social Security Act. As noted above, there are currently 77,798 Connecticut residents receiving medical assistance under this program.

While the Governor and legislature are committed to serving the state's needlest citizens, they are opposed to spending scarce resources on individuals who could otherwise pay for their coverage. As of December 2011, LIA expenditures for those under the age of 21 have grown to 4.3% of total expenditures with expenditures in the first six months of this fiscal year totaling \$12.5 million. The caseload for this age group has increased from 0.1% in June 2010 to 8.2% of the total caseload (or 6,114 cases) in December 2011 and is expected to continue to climb as more parents with college-age children become aware of the availability of LIA coverage. This demonstration proposal reflects the State's position that families who can cover dependent children, including young adult children, on their private insurance should do so. Households with sufficient financial resources should not be receiving publicly subsidized medical assistance.

To this end, under the demonstration, Connecticut is proposing to:

- Institute an asset (resource) test on all participants. The DSS will implement a \$10,000 asset test (excluding home property and one motor vehicle) on current LIA participants as well as all new applicants;
- Count parental income and assets for individuals under age 26 who either live with parents or are claimed as a dependent on a parent's income tax return; and
- Limit the nursing facility benefit to 90 days per admission, unless the LIA client meets the eligibility requirements for regular ABD Medicaid rules, including the Medicaid asset/resource test.

The goals of this demonstration are:

- Preservation of Connecticut's commitment to coverage for the most needy low-income, adult residents in need of health care services in preparation for the expansion of Medicaid under ACA in 2014;
- Continued reliable access to affordable, quality health care services for Connecticut's most needy citizens;
- Coordination of health care services for demonstration participants through the implementation of person-centered medical homes; and
- Manageable program growth and expenses through 2013;

These components are all linked in mission – to preserve Connecticut's commitment to providing quality health care coverage to the State's most vulnerable low-income adults in a manner that is financially sustainable.

IV. DEMONSTRATION ELIGIBILITY

Under the demonstration, an individual will be eligible for coverage if he or she meets the following eligibility requirements currently in place under the approved Medicaid state plan coverage group for LIA:

- Individuals ages 19 through 64;
- Not pregnant;
- Ineligible for coverage under Medicare or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP);
- Residents of Connecticut;
- · U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens; and
- Not described in 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I) through 1902(a)(10)(A)(I)(VII) of the Social Security Act.

Under the demonstration, Connecticut intends to institute an asset test. While there has been no asset test for LIA clients since the State converted its SAGA program to the Medicaid state plan coverage group for LIA in April 2010, the proposed asset limit of \$10,000 (excluding home property and one motor vehicle) will be higher than the \$1,000 asset limit previously in place under SAGA. Targeting resources towards the State's needlest populations will contribute toward the financial sustainability of the program between when the demonstration is approved and 2014 when LIA participants are expected to be covered under the Medicaid expansion authorized under ACA.

Connecticut also intends to count parental income for those individuals ages 19-25 who are living with a parent or are claimed as a dependent on a parent's tax return.

Although ACA provided parents the opportunity to cover children under their health

insurance up to age 26, due to the difficult economy, Connecticut is concerned that more familles are shifting coverage for their children to LIA because family income is not counted.

Connecticut does not intend to implement additional changes to eligibility criteria for LIA clients under the demonstration. Income eligibility under the demonstration will continue to be set at or below 55% of the FPL and, except as noted above, the methodology for determining this income will continue as is currently established for LIA in the Medicaid state plan and described in Attachment A. Except as noted below with respect to self-attestations and verifications at redeterminations for the current LIA participants transitioning to eligibility under the demonstration, individuals will apply for eligibility under LIA much as they do today under the existing Medicaid program. Individuals must, however, apply for Medicaid LIA directly with DSS using the application forms used for the aged, blind and disabled Medicaid populations and will no longer be able to apply with the DSS enrollment broker using the HUSKY/Charter Oak application form.

Transition from Medicaid LIA to the Demonstration

All demonstration participants will be reviewed under the new demonstration eligibility criteria. Connecticut intends to implement this transition as follows:

In June 2012, DSS will send a letter to all LIA recipients notifying them of the proposed income, asset and nursing facility benefit changes and the State's intention to seek an 1115 waiver for this program. This will allow individuals who may have higher income and assets under the demonstration rules time to obtain alternative insurance coverage, including coverage under the Charter Oak Program, and assure as little client disruption as possible.

New Applicants

DSS will begin notifying the public about the proposed changes to the LIA program and requesting information on applicants' assets and parental income/assets (if applicable). Beginning October 1, 2012 (or immediately upon approval of the demonstration), all new applications will be reviewed under the demonstration eligibility criteria. New applicants must provide income and asset information, including parental income and asset information (if applicable), in order to be determined eligible for the demonstration.

LIA Applications in Process

For individuals whose applications are in process, DSS intends to begin collecting income and asset information and notifying clients of the potential change in the program. DSS will also assist in finding alternatives for insurance coverage so as to assure as little client disruption as possible.

Current Medicaid LIA Participants

DSS will not apply the changes sought through the demonstration to current LIA participants until October 1, 2012 or upon federal approval. As noted above, LIA participants will be provided advance notice of the changes DSS is seeking through the demonstration and an opportunity to demonstrate continued eligibility under the demonstration based on self-declaration of income and assets or verification of income and assets if DSS is conducting a redetermination of eligibility.

Beginning in July 2012, LIA participants who are currently undergoing a redetermination of eligibility, as well as participants who are due to be redetermined within the next two months, will be asked to provide verification of their assets and parental income/assets (if applicable). Additionally in July, current LIA participants who are not due for a redetermination in the next two months will be mailed information confirming the eligibility changes and benefit changes, and a self-attestation form.

The deadline for completion and return of the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications to the State's contractor will be July 31, 2012. The contractor will track the clients who were mailed the information, those who returned the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications and those who did not return the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications. During August, the contractor will attempt to contact LIA participants who did not return the self-attestation or redetermination verifications, urge them to do so or apply for the Charter Oak program if ineligible.

The contractor will refer all self-attestation forms and redetermination verifications to DSS. If DSS determines a client to be ineligible based on the income and asset information provided by the client, DSS will provide notice to the client and the contractor will notify ineligible clients of the availability of coverage through the State's Charter Oak Program.

Clients who meet the new program requirements based on self-attestation or redetermination verifications will remain eligible for coverage under the Medicaid LIA program (subject to the new nursing facility benefit limit described below in "Demonstration Benefits.") Clients who remain eligible based on their self-attestation will, however, be required to verify the new eligibility requirements at the time of their next scheduled redetermination.

As noted above, for Medicaid LIA recipients that do not return the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications by July 31, 2012, a second attempt will be made by the contractor to contact these clients by mail and/or phone. Upon contact, the changes to the Medicaid LIA program will be reiterated to the clients and the need to provide the self-attestation form or redetermination verifications. It also will be explained that failure to return the form will result in loss of benefits. Clients will be given until August 20, 2012 to return the form to the contractor.

The contractor will provide DSS with a list of clients who do not respond by August 20, 2012. DSS will discontinue Medicaid LIA assistance for these clients effective September 30, 2012 (assuming October 1, 2012 federal approval). These clients will be able to request hearings to maintain medical benefits pending the outcome of the hearing.

Again, however, DSS will not take any formal "action" on applications or redeterminations unless and until the demonstration application receives CMS approval.

V. DEMONSTRATION BENEFITS

Connecticut currently provides the approved state plan Medicaid benefit package to the LIA population. Under the demonstration, Connecticut will continue to provide the Medicaid state plan benefit package to the LIA population, with the exception of coverage for nursing facility stays. Payment for nursing facility stays under the demonstration will be limited to 90-days per admission.

This benefit limit is being implemented to introduce a level of parity between regular Medicaid and LIA. Under the current state plan benefit package for LIA participants, individuals have access to long-term nursing facility benefits without having to spend-down assets to levels necessary for eligibility for non-LIA Medicaid populations. Any LIA participants who appear to have long-term care needs (including individuals approaching the 90-day limit) will be encouraged to apply under Medicaid ABD eligibility in order to provide continuity of coverage.

Enrollment in the demonstration benefit package will be mandatory for all demonstration participants.

Cost-sharing

There will be no cost-sharing requirement under the demonstration for LIA participants.

VI. DEMONSTRATION DELIVERY SYSTEM

Medicaid LIA demonstration participants will receive services through the existing Medicaid delivery system and provider network at the Medicaid state plan reimbursement rates, as they do today under the state plan coverage group. There will be no difference in delivery system. Demonstration participants will be included in the new initiatives that are being introduced in Connecticut's Medicaid program, including the new PCMH initiative, the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership, and the medical ASO initiative to manage medical benefits. These initiatives do not require additional federal authorities or waivers for Medicaid state plan populations, therefore Connecticut does not anticipate the need for additional authority under this demonstration for those initiatives.

VII. ESTIMATED IMPACT ON EXPENDITURES AND ENROLLMENT

DSS estimates that savings from the initiative will be approximately \$52 million in SFY 13. In addition, DSS estimates that 15,000 to 20,000 LIA participants will lose eligibility as a result of the proposed changes during SFY 13.

VIII. DEMONSTRATION HYPOTHESIS AND EVALUATION PARAMETERS

DSS proposes to use the demonstration experience to better understand the reasons and extent to which families with dependents under age 26 seek coverage under Medicaid as an alternative to continued parental coverage available under ACA. As noted earlier, Connecticut believes that families with college-age children are shifting coverage from private coverage to Medicaid LIA because family income and assets are not counted under current rules.

DSS also proposes to gather demonstration cost and utilization experience in order to better understand the costs and utilizations patterns of the Medicaid expansion population in 2014 and compare to those of current Medicaid state plan populations.

IX. WAIVER AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITIES REQUESTED

Connecticut requests expenditure authority under section 1115(a)(2) for expenditures for health care-related costs for non-pregnant adults ages 19 through 64 who are not otherwise eligible under Medicare or CHIP, not described in 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I) through 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VII) of the Social Security Act, are residents of Connecticut, are citizens or eligible aliens, have limited assets and who have income at or below 55% of the FPL in accordance with Attachment A and the changes proposed under this demonstration, including parental income and assets for individuals under age 26 who live with their parents or are claimed as a dependent on a parent's federal income tax return.

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Revision:	• • •	ATTACHMENT 2.2-A Page 9b4	
: 	State:	CONNECTICUT	
Agency*	Citation(s)	Groups Covered	-
	Α.	Mandatory Coverage — Calegorically Needy and Other Required Special Groups (Continued)	
		In determining whether an individual's income is at or below the State's income standard for this group, the State will use the following methodology:	
•		The income rules of the SSI program.	
	:	The income rules of the SSI program, and the following less restrictive income disregards and exclusions than are used by SSI.	
		_X A methodology based on rules other than those of the SSI program. The methodology the State will use is described below.	
		Disregard an additional 12% of FPL as a high shelter deduction for individuals in Region A as described in Supplement 1 to Attachment 2.6-A.	٠
		Disregard \$150 of monthly carned income.	
· .		Disregard all income for the three month period the begins with the first month that the individual would otherwise become incligible solely due to a increase in carned income.	
•		Deduct from income medical expenses incurred be the individual or family or financially responsible relatives that are not subject to payment by a third party.	3
	•		

From:

Sent; To: Puckett, Olivia <Olivia.Puckett@cga.ct.gov>

Tuesday, June 19, 2012 7:56 AM

ACort@ynhcmg.org; publicpolicy@namict.org; agoduti@ccpa-inc.org; ann.hogan@ynhh.org; annette:buckley@ctunitedway.org; Cournoyer@chime.org; bweeks@TheKowalskiGroup.com; creasel@qmail.com; alevinbecker@ctmirror.org; Henry, Beverley; abeyus@chcact.org; Bocaccino, Maryellen; david.bordonaro@mcleancare.org; kbb@stateside.com; Buckley, Melissa; WAMUO, CHERYL; Chillington, Yulia; christine.cappiello@anthem.com; lclark@rc.com; ccatrone@cmhacc.org; corinavendetto@sbcglobal.net; dwhite@ctstransit.com; dcrane@genhealth.org; KDemers@DayKimball.org; dconsiglio@chnct.org; Avery, Dominique; edie61066@hotmail.com; ehackett@villageforchildren.org.; elisa.jacobs@cms.hhs.gov; Garcia; Erica L.; Eclark@ccpa-inc.org; ebarnum@chcact.org; bfalrbairn@newsamaritancorp.org; jfay@vna-commh.org; fbf.wws@cox.net; Gary.Smart@YNHH.org; bgauthier@hebrewhealthcare.org; egemski@murthalaw.com; GBass@ghla.org; Equaljustice1966@aol.com; hfeltonreid@rc.com; Carrie.Hart@chshartford.org; hteed@ccpa-inc.org; Hoyt@cahch.org; jhughes@HughesandCronin.com; jmcnichol@larcc.org; jbell@ctkidslink.org; JMcNichol@larcc.org; jsicklic@kidscounsel.org; jwaskiel@stfranciscare.org; jcronin@hughesandcronin.com; Bernier, Jennifer, jesse@ctschoolhealth.org; joan_a_morgan@UHC.com; joann@cfapress.org; KelseyEWilson@gmail.com; KPrzybysz@aol.com; Dowty, Kristin; ct.lobbylst@gmail.com; Honigfeld@uchc.edu; Irusso@wheelerclinic.org; Barrera, Laura Victoria; Cook, Lawrence; Iserota@benecare.com; Vander Baan, Lee R.; Lori.Szczygiel@valueoptions.com; lorraine.furbush@ynhh.org; malloyj@oddfellowsct.com; jmangene@HillHealthCenter.com; Franklin, Marie A; Macyr@chnct.org; smcpherson@masonicare,org; meyers@adp.uchc.edu; dmiller@chnct.org; monette@cthealth.org; mmorelli@canpfa.org; pmorse@ctbaptisthomes.org; griffin@lobbyct.com; Dube, Nicole; knystrom@newenglandhomecare.com; akeefe@ct.metrocast.net; hpaek4kids@gmail.com; Passaro, Cara; JPerkins@CONNECTICARE.com; Pandl114@aol.com; Pope, Michelle; Weiser, Rebecca (Rivka); RMHoffmann@dhs.ri.gov; RobinH@logisticare.com; O'Connor, Rod; shalpin@rc.com; SToubman@nhlegal.org; SCohen@Wheelerclinic.org; siwaniec@ctstransit.com; SParker-McKernan@larcc.org; saul.spigel@po.state.ct.us; Scalettar, Ellen; slanger@ctkidslink.org; elizabeth.shorrock@boehringer-ingelheim.com; Barrett, Tanya; Edelstein, Terry; Rugens, Theresa N.; waldent@ctseniorcare.org; Puckett, Olivia; Deborah; aabissonnette@hotmail.com; pbelval@umh.org; mbloom@romesmithlutz.com; bweeks@thekowalskigroup.com; Cole, Molly; dpolun@chcact.org; howard.mark1@comcast.net; fbf.wws@cox.net; bfiocchetta@mchct.org; pgilland@churchhomes.org; aselinger@prohealthmd.com; Jamesmc@logisticare.com; Jtraver@harthosp.org; judith.dowd@ct.gov; Evans Starr, Julia; Brennan, Kathleen M.; Sinko, Kelly; klalime@csms-ipa.com; wkowalewski@jhe.org; mkurban@abhct.com; liverson@wcmh.org; egemski@murthalaw.com; maoneill@ccpainc.org; Ali, MaryBeth; matthew.gianquinto@gmail.com; Mike.Towers@ACS-INC.COM; mrwindt@underoneroofinc.org; joseph.oros@boehringer-ingelheim.com; Cronin, Patricia; gravelg@whitneycenter.com; robertp@logisticare.com; Robinh@Logisticare.com; Irusso@chcacLorg; Scott, Haley; Steven.Moore@valueoptions.com; walkovich2000j@aol.com; Cezito@magellanhealth.com; ecollins@newenglandhomecare.com; saraf@namict.org; Messner, Theresa A.; McFarlane, Carole B.; Boulay, Eileen; darnold@mpsphysicians.com; klalime@csms-ipa.com; ebarnum@chcact.org; rsmanik@daykimball.org;

To:

jreed@prohealthmd.com; mtaylor@hillhealthcenter.com; Paul.Liistro@arborsct.com; masselm@chc1.com; Steve Ouellet; kpajor@beechwoodrehab.net; Norwood, Joel C.; s,amdur@snet.net; gagliardi@chc1.com; McFarlane, Carole B.; CBianchi@staywellhealth.org; debapm@aol.com; Dorysblue@sbcglobal.net; Kane, Brittany; slanger@ctkidslink.org.; Silverman, Phyllis; Rep. Ritter, Elizabeth; Rep. Cook, Michelle; Rep. Tercyak, Peter; Rep. Villano, Peter; Rep. Johnson, Susan; Rep. Walker, Toni; VNardello@aol.com; Rep. Nardello, Vickie; Sen. Gerratana, Terry; Sen. Harp, Toni; Smith, Maureen; Jwalter@rushford.org; McDermott, Gaia; Mgeertsma@STMH.org; s.amdur@snet.net; acole@staywellhealth.org; gagliardi@chc1.com; annette.buckley@ctunitedway.org; Wolf, Barbara; Beaulieu, Claudette J.; BDavis@hrsa.gov; Bocaccino, Maryellen; Bremby, Roderick L; carol.trapp@acs-inc.com; BCheney@wcmh.org; csavold@benecare.com.; Cbianchi@staywellhealth.org; Cohen, Robin; Colangelo, Steven A.; CGeib@hrsa.gov; Harrington, Colleen; Weizenbaum, David B; Dearborn, David S.; debaprn@aol.com; Evans Starr, Julia; Dileo, Paul; donald_langer@uhc.com; Balaski, Donna; Dowd, Judith; Andrews@cthealthpolicy.org; Dudley, Evelyn A.; Ferron-Poole, Astread O.; rosa.ficocelli@ct.gov.; Foley, Anne; gdigioia@chnct.org; Ganesan, Uma; latinoexpo@snet.net; Dorysblue@sbcglobal.net; Halsey, William; Hutchinson, Jennifer L; Gott, Jason T.; Milstein, Jeanne; Jwalter@rushford.org; KYacavone@swchc.org; Sinko, Kelly; Kolreg, Sallie; jacqueline.kozin@PO.STATE.CT.US; Franklin, Marie A; Keenan, Mark; Schaefer, Mark C.; Kmartin@griffinhealth.org; mmilkovic@benecare.com; malee@ctkidslink.org; McEvoy, Kate; McGuire, Susan R.; Marie.Montemagno@CMS.hhs.gov; mmorelli@canpfa.org; Mary.Moriarty@cms.hhs.gov; cocallahan@midhosp.org; Rehmer, Pat; paula.armbruster@aya.yale.edu; Silverman, Phyllis; Coleman-Mitchell, Renee; Rep. Abercrombie, Catherine; zRepresentative Craig Miner; Rep. Ritter, Elizabeth; zRepresentative Lile Gibbons; Rep. Schofield, Linda; Rep. Cook, Michelle; Rep. Villano, Peter, Rep. Johnson, Susan, Rep. Walker, Toni; Vnardello@aol.com; bgrubbs@ccahelping.org; Spencer, Richard; Zavoski, Robert W.; aselinger@ProHealthMD.com; Sen. Musto, Anthony; Sen. Gerratana, Terry; Sen. Kane, Rob; Smith, Carol R; Soulsby, Joan; Steve.Mackinnon@ACS-INC.COM; Skelly@chnct.org; Treiss, Carolyn; Veltri, Victoria; Jesse@ctschoolhealth.org; wodatch@CAHCH.org; Wolf, Marcea G.; WOLMAN, FREDERICKA; THOMAS, WOODRUFF@PO.STATE, CT.US; kpajor@beechwoodrehab.net; Norwood, Joel C.

Cc:

Subject: Attachments: Treiss, Carolyn; McCooey, Patricia E. LIA Waiver Notice and Application

CT LIA DSS WEBSITE NOTICE 6 18 12 (2).doc; Connecticut_DSS_1115_ DRAFT

Application FINAL 6 12 12 doc

Importance:

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Good Morning,

The CT Department of Social Services LIA 1115 Medicaid Waiver Draft Application and Notice are attached.

The Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight will be hosting a public hearing for the 1115 Medicaid Waiver Draft Application on June 26, 2012 at 10:00 AM in LOB Room 1D.

The Department of Social Services will also accept comments until July 18, 2012 and 30 days after today June 19, 2012.

Sign-up information to follow.

Thank you.

Warmest regards,

Olivia Puckett

Legislative Staff: Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight
Legislative Office Building Room 3000
Hartford, CT 06106
(P) 860-240-0321
(F)860-240-0023
http://www.cga.ct.gov/ph/medicaid/olivia.puckett@cga.ct.gov

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LOST YOUR PET? Let a Regional school District #16 seeks bids for Athletic Fields for Wood in and Regional High School location. To place your lost pet there will be a mondatory pre-bid word place your ad online a www.rep-am.com

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LOST female cat, brown and tant hestonal school District#16 seeks The Town of Sharon will accept hids for Grounds Care for three bids for Revaluation of all Real schools located in Prospect and two schools located in prospect and the schools loca

June 22, 2012 R-A June 12, 2012

ENVITATION TO BED Town of Roxbury Connection

South Street Paylog Project

The Town of Roxbury is seeking sealed bids for a 2.1-mile paying project on South Street from the intersection of Wellers Bridge Road to Apple Lane and from the intersection of River Road to the Southbury Town Line. The scope of work will include rectaining of existing payernen; adding, where needed, and compacting of base material; paying; and repairing disturbed shoiliders.

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Roxbury Town Half 23 North Street P. O. Box 203 Roxbury, CT 06783

The Town of Roxbury will select a company based on qualifications and pricing as well as start date. The bld will not be selected on pricing alone.

The Yown of Roxbury reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids; to waive any defects, in regularities, or informatities; to divide the award or to accept any bid deemed in the best interest of the Town of Roxbury.

The Town of Roxbury is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer,

iolic Notices.

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF SHARON, CT

Robert Loucks, First Selectman R-A June 12, 2012

Oxford Public Schools 1 Great Holl Road Oxford, CT (64/6) Request for Proposal Laptops and Curts

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The Govern Public Schools is seed: the right to take into account the Estimated invasion in the Estimated in the Estimated invasion in the Estimated invasion in the Estimated invasion in the Esti der News & Announcements.

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All bids will be considered valid Proposals must be received no for a period of shity (60) days, later than 3:00 PM fuesday, June 19, 2012 and can be either emailed Carol Z. Roman 19, 2012 and can be either emailed Carol Z. Roman 10, 2012 and 201

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the right to accept or reject anyor all blds; to valve any informality; or to accept any bld deemed in the best interests of the Town of Watertown."

R-A kine 12, 2012

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See For Yourself In Súnday's HOME Real Estate

Notice of Proposed New Medicald 1115 Demonstration Walver Application for Public Comment

The State of Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) proposes to sound a new application for a Neokcald Social 1115 Demonstration Walver to the Centers for Medicare & Medicald Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Falls CT. Bidders may bid one with the Town specifications, town or submit a combined bid for both towns.

Sealed bids are invited and will be it he purchasing Agent are available at the Selectmen's of the Town of Watertown at the received by the Purchasing Agent are available at the Selectmen's of the Town of Watertown at the received by the Purchasing Agent are available at the Selectmen's of the Town of Watertown at the received by the Purchasing Agent of the Connecticut and I live and I

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There will continue to be no cost-sharing requirements for participants in the Medicard LPA 1115 Demonstration.

Demonstration Evaluation

DSS proposes to use the Medicate IIA Demonstration exobtlence to better understand the cost and utilization patterns of the Medicaid expansion population in 2014, and to better understand the reasons and extent to which emites with dependents under age 250 seek coverions under Medicaid as an alkanative to continued parental coverage available under the Affordable Description.

Federal Authority Requested

DSS will request that CAS provide expenditure authority under section 1115(a)(1) of the Social Security Act in odder for Connecticut to cover individuals under the Medical 11A Demonstration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATIONI

information on Obtaining Section 1115 Walver Draft Application and Submission of Councerts
Submission of Councerts
DSS will accept comments on the waiver application for a 30 day period, starting on time 13, 2012 through and including July 13, 2012. Comments may be sent to Mark Susseler, Prub., Director, Medical Care Administration, 055, 25 Secomes' Street, Nathon, CT 66165-5033 (Phone: 866-424-514, Email: UALISds:@ct.gov).

Requests for copies of the application may also be directed to the postal and e-mail addresses above.

Additional information and a copy of the complete application may also be viewed on the DSS website: http://www.ct.gov/dss/1115.

DSS wishes to make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities throughout this public comment, process. You may contact DSS at the addresses or numbers above if you need this notice or materials in an alternative accessible format or need any other accommodations that will allow you to participate in this process.

Public Hearings

There will be two public hearings on the walver; 1) Council on Medical Assistance Program Oversight Public Hearing, Legislative Office Building, June 26, 2017, 10:00 6.m., Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Averse Hartippe, Cr., Room 1-D. For buttler (Incomalion; www.csact.scy; and 3) 50 Hearings—June 28, 2012, 16:00 a.m., New Haven Free Public Library—Courtlend S. Wilson Branch, 383 Washington Avenue, New Haven, CT 66519 (103) 945-228.

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CT Dept. of Social Services Attn: Deborah McMullen 25 Sigourney St. Hartford, CT 06106-5032

Order No: PO # DSSM1-0000042977

Contact: Deborah McMullen

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ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

Regulations and notices published herein, pursuant to General Statutes Sections 4-168 and 4-173, are printed exactly as submitted by the forwarding agencies. These, being official documents submitted by the responsible agencies, are consequently not subject to editing by the Commission on Official Legal Publications.

A cumulative list of effective amendments to the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies may be found in the Connecticut Law Journal

dated July 3, 2012.

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Notice of Public Hearing

In accordance with Section 16a-28 of the Connecticut General Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), in cooperation with the Regional Planning Organizations, shall hold public hearings on the revised Draft 2013-2018 Conservation and Development Policies: A Plan for Connecticut (Draft Plan), which was published on April 30, 2012. A link to the Draft Plan, along with a listing of regional public hearing dates, times and locations, can be found on OPM's website: http://www.ct.gov/opm/cdplan.

All interested persons are invited to express their views on the *Draft Plan*, either verbally or in writing, at any of the public hearings. In addition, written comments on the *Draft Plan* will be accepted at any time up to the close of business (5:00 PM) on October 5, 2012. Written comments may be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to:

Name:

Daniel Morley

Agency: Address: Office of Policy and Management 450 Capitol Avenue, MS #540RG

Hartford, CT 06106-1379

Fax:

860-418-6486

E-Mail:

Daniel Morley@ct.gov

All public comments received shall be considered part of the public record, and OPM will publish a formal response to such comments on its website approximately one month after the close of the public comment period.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Notice of Proposed Section 1115 Demonstration Wavier Making Changes to the Medicaid Coverage Group for Low-Income Adults

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 17b-8, as amended by Section 144 of Public Act 11-44, the State Department of Social Services hereby gives notice of its intent to submit a demonstration waiver request to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This waiver will make certain changes to the eligibility and

coverage requirements for the Medicaid Low-Income Adults Coverage Group. The waiver will be submitted under the authority of section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

Background

Effective April 2010, the Department of Social Services added a new Medicaid group for low-income adults, as permitted under Section 2001 of the Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-149. This was intended to expand access to quality health care to very low income individuals. This expansion provided coverage to approximately 45,000 individuals, many of whom had been enrolled in a more limited benefit package under the state-funded State Administered General Assistance Program. The program has grown significantly since its creation.

Proposed Changes and Purpose of the Waiver

DSS proposes to implement a new Medicaid Section 1115 Demonstration coverage group to replace the current Medicaid State Plan LIA coverage group that was approved effective April 1, 2010 and replaced the previous State-only funded SAGA medical assistance program. The Medicaid LIA demonstration waiver will retain the same eligibility requirements and coverage that currently apply to the Medicaid State Plan LIA coverage group with the following exceptions. Effective on or after October 1, 2012, DSS proposes to:

- Implement an asset (resource) test of \$10,000 for all new and current LIA participants. Currently, there is no asset test for LIA eligibility;
- Count parental income and assets for those individuals ages 19-25 living with a parent or claimed as a dependent on a parent's tax return;
- Modify coverage for nursing facility stays. Individuals receiving coverage under the Medicaid LIA 1115 Demonstration will continue to receive the Medicaid benefit package, with the exception of coverage for nursing facility stays. Coverage under the LIA demonstration will be limited to 90-days per admission and individuals in need of longer-term nursing facility stays will be encouraged to apply for Medicaid coverage under other eligibility groups that qualify for long-term care.

Public Hearing

The Department has held two public hearings on the application, in accordance with federal public notice requirements. Connecticut law also provides an opportunity for the public to present their views on the application at a legislative public hearing. The Appropriations Committee and Human Services Committees of the Connecticut General Assembly, which have cognizance over the Department of Social Services, will hold a hearing on the demonstration application on July 24, 2012 at 10 a.m., at the Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. This hearing is being held in accordance with the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 17b-8(a), as amended by Section 144 of Public Act 11-44. Additional information concerning this hearing may be obtained on the Connecticut General Assembly website, www.cga.ct.gov.

Additional Information

Copies available

A copy of the demonstration application is available at no cost upon request. Copies of the application may be requested by mail or email from Mark Schaefer,

Ph.D. Director, Medical Care Administration, DSS, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5033 (Phone: 860-424-5067, Fax: 860-424-5114, Email: LIA1115.dss@ct.gov.) You may also view the application on the Department's website: http://www.ct.gov/dss/1115.

Electronic Mailing List

If you wish to register to receive emails related to future actions on this waiver, please send an email request to: <u>LIA1115.dss@ct.gov</u>.

Public comments

The statute requires a 15-day comment period prior to the committees of cognizance hearing. Written comments in advance of the hearing may be sent to: Mark Schaefer, Director, Medical Care Administration, DSS, Medical Care Administration, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5033 (Phone: 860-424-5067, Fax: 860-424-5114, Email: LJA1115.dss@ct.gov.)

All comments must be received by DSS no later than July 18, 2012.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Individual and Family Grant Program

Section 17b-10-1, the Uniform Policy Manual, is amended.

The text of these regulations will not be published herein in accordance with the provisions of Section 4-173 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Copies of this regulation are available at the Department of Social Services. Interested members of the public may obtain a copy by writing to Office of Legal Counsel, Regulations and Administrative Hearings, Department of Social Services, 25 Sigourney St., Hartford, CT 06106.

Be it known that the foregoing regulations are repealed by the aforesaid agency pursuant to Sec. 17b-13 of the General Statutes, as amended by Public Act No. 11-29 of the Public Acts, of the notice of the proposal to repeal such regulations.

Wherefore, the foregoing regulations are hereby repealed, effective when filed with the Secretary of

In Wimess Whereof: October 25, 2011, Claudette Bealieu, Deputy Commissioner.

Approved by the Attorney General as to legal sufficiency in accordance with Sec. 4-169, as amended, Connecticut General Statutes: November 7, 2011.

Approved by the Legislative Regulation Review Committee in accordance with Sec. 4-170, as amended, of the General Statutes: May 22, 2012.

Two certified copies received and filed, and one such copy forwarded to the Commission on Official Legal Publications in accordance with Sec. 4-172, as amended, of the General Statutes, Secretary of the State: June 5, 2012.

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